MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON TEACHING
February 10, 2009
Tuesday, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Kerr Hall Rm 129

Present: Elisabeth Cameron (Chair), Doris Ash, Jessica Fiske Bailey (Guest), Tammi Blake (Staff advisor), Henry Burnett (Media Services Director), Claire Max, Jim Phillips (ITG Director), Hongyun Wang.

Absent: Ian Fullmer and Daniel Seldon
Guest: CEP Chair Jaye Padgett

1. Chair's Announcements:
     a. March 5 adjudication meeting reminder. March 6 teaching awards deadline.
     b. Professor of the Year Award: COT is adopting a new system and the position will be divisionally nominated now. Jessica has made a packet regarding the nomination process and criteria and put a call out to the Deans last week.
     c. No minutes to approve today.
     d. No mini grants to approve today.

2. IIG Grants: The application deadline passed and COT received four major grant requests totaling $35,000. A variety of Course Development Grant applications have been received totaling approximately $86,000. The committee can approve $81,000 for distribution. All the proposals will be posted to the web site and the committee is urged to read them before the meeting.

Note: The committee needs to document effectiveness of grants for the EVC office including dissemination and more to secure funds for next year.

3. CTE: The committee agreed to research how other campuses have structured their teaching and learning centers. Time will be spent in a future meeting to organize this.

4. LMS: Faculty want to start using Sakai as early as possible. ITG needs to complete a Request for Proposals (which could take 2 months to approve) to create a "playground" for interested faculty. ITG plans to contract with a third party vendor for support and training for implementation of Sakai to speed up the process. A faculty focus group is necessary and could be developed with the "early adopters." Promotion of the system amongst faculty is critical and should be done through peers. It is suggested that there be a point person for the new system in each department. It is suggested that Jim go to divisional chair meetings to discuss the system.

5. Excellence in Teaching Awards:
     a. There are thirteen nominations right now; more than have ever been received at this time of year. One more advertising push coordinated by Jessica, Matthew

Palm of SUA and Ian will happen toward the end of February How each file will be evaluated was discussed.

b. Changing the process for next year: The process needs to be adjusted before the call goes out for next year. COT will gather information from other universities regarding their teaching awards process before discussing revision of UCSC's process.

6. Guest Jaye Padgett on General Education reform.
   a. Handout: legislation justification for Disciplinary Communication. The DC requirement will be voted on at the February 18 Senate meeting. If passed it will go into effect next fall but won't be the pure new standard for two years. The DC requirement will need support from the campus for peer tutoring in classes with writing so there will be trained undergrads to help. More TA support and training for these writing courses will also be necessary. CEP has past models from the Writing Program but wants more ideas on encouraging faculty to increase writing in classes without too much pressure on faculty. It is suggested that instructors require students to go to writing tutoring in addition to going to class. The campus can also get lecturers trained in evaluating writing. Undergrads could be instructional assistants for these "DC" classes but will need to be trained. Grad-level TAs preparation could be a five-week course though the departments to learn how to teach writing better.

   b. GE proposal: See handout for specifics. The Senate meeting on March 6 will feature this legislation. CEP needs an analysis of how current offerings fit or need to change to fit this new model. If the reform legislation passes it will go into effect fall of 2010. Some courses will have to change or be eliminated and new courses will be developed. Chair Padgett suggested that course development grants could help create new classes. Some committee members like the idea of no overlap in requirements but with two "exceptions" in a core course. The committee notes that the Creative Process classes will require a lot of oversight from instructors. A committee response from COT on the proposed reform would be welcomed by CEP. COT can help CEP with GE reform by hosting a joint symposium or senate forum regarding redesigning courses for the new requirements.

So attests,

Elisabeth Cameron, Chair
Committee on Teaching