MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON TEACHING
February 14, 2007
Wednesday, 9:30-11 a.m., Kerr Hall Rm 129

Present: Chair Murray Baumgarten, Henry Burnett (Media Services Director),
                Rachel Dewey (NSTF Rep), Ruth Harris-Barnett (CTE Director), Lindsay
                Hinck, Kevin Karplus, Roxanne Monnet (Senate analyst), Cynthia
                Polecritti.

Absent: John Borrego

Chair's Announcements

Chair Baumgarten and Member Hinck attended a meeting called by EVC Kliger to
discuss issues associated with large lecture teaching. At the meeting, Committee on
Educational Policy (CEP) Chair Jaye Padgett discussed CEP's recommendation that the
writing-intensive (W) requirement either be appropriately funded or discontinued. At the
meeting they discussed how the W requirement differs from the C requirements. CPEVC
Kliger wants to facilitate how to make the W requirement more doable for the faculty. It
was noted that Senate Regulation says in "a discipline" not in "departments." This and
that it is not directly funded, has allowed support of the requirement to fall between the
cracks. COT would like to invite CEP Chair Padgett to attend a spring meeting.

Chair Baumgarten indicated the need for assistance with COT representation at a couple
upcoming ITC meetings. He will inform the Committee of dates as they arise.

Draft minutes from January 31

The minutes from January 31, 2007, were accepted as amended.

Director's Announcements

Final details were discussed for tomorrow's symposium.

Teaching statement, should one be created for UCSC?

Director Burnett provided the Committee with WASC information for COT to consider
toward creation of a teaching statement to recommend for the campus. This topic will be
carried forward to a spring meeting.

Mini Grants

One grant was discussed and not funded. The requestor will be contacted with suggestions to revise and resubmit.

The Committee discussed what number of future offerings of a course departments should be asked to agree to offering in order for the course to be considers as a pilot and potentially qualify for mini grant funding. COT will work to define parameters on how pilot course proposals may differ from one-time offerings.

Spring meeting schedule

The Committee was asked to submit schedule information to the Senate Office so that spring meetings can be set.

Consultation with University Librarian

University Librarian Virginia Steel visited COT to discuss the planned Information Commons, information literacy, Library's support for teaching, and coordination of the library with other teaching functions and Information Technology Services (ITS).

Librarian Steel sees the library as a primary player in support of teaching and research. The Library intends to create spaces to draw students in and provide services to support their ability to do their academic work outside of classes and residences. ITS, Student Affairs, the Library, and VPDUE Ladusaw are talking about the library as a learning space for the needs of students and faculty, particularly in McHenry as it gets renovated. They have the goal of combining service desks. They would like to create connections between the faculty who will be housed there and students. Academic units to go into the new/remodeled library space include Math, Art History, and the Writing Program. ITS and the library have two task forces, one of which is to develop a combined help desk. They envision traditional library support combined with technology support. It is hoped that no more than one referral will be necessary beyond that desk. They also want to help faculty with teaching needs in this area and are looking for overlaps.

The planned Global Village Café will contain a large learning commons. There would be no front doors into McHenry Library.   The security in plan now will remain. As one enters the current reference/circulation desk area of McHenry, there will be a community living room space (waiting area) with up to 80 workstations.   The hardware has yet to be determined. There may be just laptops, if there is a good wireless infrastructure. The help desk would be here.

The Library is works with ITS and Media Service to convert the current slide library with digital collections. They are working with Art Store who provides imagines campuswide. UCSC's digital images would be loaded into their database. Faculty will find both what the Art Store has and UCSC images too.

Members asked about the possibility of archiving student projects which is not happening presently. Archiving digital assets is being discussed systemwide due to the expense of in perpetuity archiving.

The Librarian expressed the opinion that teaching information literacy is best done by working with faculty to develop assignments to get students to work with library resources. It was noted that it is a slow process to get faculty to interact with their library staff. Librarian Steel asked for input as to how to get the word out regarding support that the Library can provide to instructors.   COL members recommended attending department meetings to discuss information literacy.

COT offered to support outreach to faculty regarding information literacy, such as an email letter from the Committee and invited the Librarian to provide feedback for such a letter if she would like their support.

Members Items

Concern was expressed regarding the decrease in class quality due to insufficient TA support and faculty unwillingness to pick up the balance of the workload not met by TA support.

Attest,

Murray Baumgarten, Chair
Committee on Teaching