

DCEC Meeting
October 20, 2009
1:30 pm, Room 221

Minutes

Present: Gail Boldt, Charleon Jeffries, Kristen Lee, David Cochrane, Andrea McCloskey, Jane Harsted, Elizabeth Park, SuYoung Kang, David Fuentes, Sharon Patrick, Darla Homan, Maria Schmidt

Gail called the meeting to order and introduced new members. Minutes from the September meeting were read and approved with corrections.

Subcommittee Reports

Resources – Discussion centered on incorporating more technology in construction of the resources collection. The idea is that readily accessible video resources might get more use than a library. David Cochrane suggested iTunes and other internet venues for hosting film and podcasts, as well as processes for recording campus talks. There was discussion of filming not only big events and lectures, but also using our own people to create a video archive, such as (for example) a lecture Jane might give on representations of American Indians in children's literature which could be permanently available. Other ideas included exploring the use of Facebook.

Climate – Discussion centered on the role of the department committees and the college committee, and the need to define the purpose of each. This was particularly tied to discussions that occurred around the College's diversity strategic planning. The question was raised of whether there might be a set of dispositions or questions that the college shared in common or whether that would meet the differing needs of the departments. The question of what belongs at the department level and what belongs at the college level was raised as fundamental. The climate subcommittee will continue to pursue a meeting with the heads of department level DCEC committees.

Theme – The theme committee reported on two major areas of discussion. One is a way to pursue the question of what diversity related stance or education might mean and look like. Would this be a set of dispositions or fundamental principles that organizes the educational efforts of the theme subcommittee? Jeanine circulated an initial document and the subcommittee is also going to look at the NCATE standards to see if it is possible to understand how else the theme subcommittee might define and understand its work. The second area of discussion was the actual events related to AILP that the committee will put on. There will be a resources table in December in the Chambers Atrium developed along the same lines as the LGBT table from last year. The subcommittee will plan one or two addition events in the spring. One suggestion for how to make decisions about those spring events was to look at the audiences for the AILP program and see if there are audiences being missed, such as undergraduate teacher education students or staff.

Old business

Gail reported on sending an email to all chairs to report on DCEC membership and to request that reporting from the DCEC be included as a regular agenda item in monthly faculty and staff meetings. She received two responses. She reported that in C&I, it is now a monthly agenda item in faculty meetings.

Maria took the lead on discussion of undergraduate membership on the committee. There was consensus that this is desirable. However, achieving this will be difficult because undergraduate schedules are difficult to work with. Maria suggested therefore using maximum creativity in figuring out what undergraduate membership might look like, if it might be configured somewhat differently. To begin to build a set of strategies to recruit undergrad membership, the committee agreed to the following actionable items:

- * Gail will draft an invitation for undergraduates to serve on the DCEC and send it out to the DCEC for comment.

- * Charleon will send out the invitation to undergrads in all 5 depts on the chance that there are undergrads who might like to serve whose schedule works with the existing schedule.

- * We will make personal contacts with undergrads we think could make good members.

- * We will meet with the Dean's student advisory council.

- * We will talk with undergraduates with whom we have contact about ways to support undergraduate service.

- * We will send messages to the leadership of registered student groups.

Discussion of the website was tabled for the following meeting.

New business

Gail presented a proposal for a DCEC grant for assistance in funding the visit of Dr. Joseph Tobin, which was approved;