Minutes of Faculty Professional Development Meeting of October 3, 2014

Meeting called to order at 10:30 am

Members Present: Jim Andrews, Andrew Bloom, Sandra Ammons, William Wong, Alex Wolpe, Geoff Hirsch, Shyam Sundar

Members Absent: Carol Morodomi

Approval of minutes from September 2014: Minutes approved

Meeting Adjourned at 11:10

1. **Approval of Funding Requests**: All requests put forth to the committee were approved. Not many requests have come in this year yet but the divisions that have historically used the majority of the budget have not yet put in their requests.

2. **Learning College Week Survey Results**: To date we have 13 respondents. Some interesting results that will drive decisions regarding Spring Learning College Week. Jim Andrews would like to see the committee drive the curriculum for Learning College Week based on the results of the survey. A draft schedule will come forward in November along with a request for workshops. Several of the recent respondents commented that they would be willing to moderate a workshop.

3. **Budget**: Dr Jim Wright has made a donation toward faculty professional development. He is soliciting donations from retirees and current faculty in the hope of seeing the budget increase in the future. The budget has been constant for a long time and Dr. Wright would like to see the budget increase.

4. **Spring Learning College Week**: There is a need to see Learning College Week continue to change in order to meet the changing needs and desires of faculty. Previous spring schedules have been:

   Tuesday: Get It Done Day
   Wednesday: Tech Day
   Thursday: Teaching/Learning Day
   Friday: Fixed Flex

   Jim Andrews would like to see the week become more discussion based and less “sage on the stage”. The committee agreed that addressing pertinent topics in an open discussion forum could be very enlightening across the curriculum. Sheldon Helms recently sent out an email regarding homework and its value. The committee believes that topics like this could lead to incredibly enriching conversation that could be valuable to faculty in every department. At a previous meeting, Carol Morodomi had commented about plagiarism and the committee held
this up as another topic that would lead to valuable conversation. Other ideas that came forward were a discussion on “what is success?”, teaching techniques, and highlights of SLOAC presentations from previous semesters. The hope would be to have small discussion based groups that would begin the conversation early in Learning College Week. The hope would be that the conversations would continue throughout the week. The committee commented that it was important to keep a written record of conversations and that there needed to be a variety of topics so everyone could find something they were passionate about or dealt with on a daily basis. The suggestion was made that a perfect time for the conversations would be the morning of Get It Done Day. This would allow for the conversation to potentially move from groups that were represented by multiple divisions into department groups in the late morning and afternoon. It could also color the remaining meetings during the week.

There needs to be a greater emphasis during Learning College Week on teaching and fostering better teaching techniques. The more conversations that can be created about improved teaching, the better the results will be for our students.

5. Short Form Reporting: Shyam has not yet received any emails regarding questions for the short form. A quick conversation resulted in the following topics addressed as important:
   - Title of activity
   - Date of activity
   - Brief description of the activity
   - Which type of professional development activity did the activity tie to?

Meeting adjourned at 12:15pm

Next meeting November 14, 2014