

**University Council on Teaching
Meeting of Thursday October 8 2015
Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Jeffrey Cohen, Katie McInnes-Dittrich, John Rakestraw, Pat DeLeeuw, Danielle, Taghian, Stephanie Leone, Kathy Baily, Bob Bloom

12:05-12:30 Discussion

Discussion on revising the TAM grants and transitioning some of the money to the CTE. One proposal is to have fewer of them but guarantee 5K summer stipend plus expenses. Applicants will need to justify how work is over and beyond normal teaching assignment- how will the grant make you a better teacher and benefit BC.

Discussion Notes:

- CTE main purpose:
 - To deepen the culture of teaching on campus by starting the conversation about what it means to be a good teacher
 - Make teaching a community discussion
- How is what CTE doing different than what is accomplished through the TAM and TAME grants?
 - CTE focuses on teaching excellence
 - TAM and Tame do not do the same thing as the CTE
 - Better discussion about technology
 - Programs could be replicable and publicized beyond the UCT
 - Cohort group feeds off each other
- Issues:
 - How much money to put aside for TAM and TAME grants
 - Max of \$5000 stipend per award
 - There are less grant proposals coming in and historically the UCT did not get sufficient proposals to give out all the money
 - Whether CTE would use the other \$75K to grant awards similar to TAM
 - Main issue is whether to transition the \$75K to CTE to be used at their discretion and if the other \$75K should be allocated for awards/TAM/TAME
- Decision:
 - \$75K will go to CTE and the UCT would still administer the TAM and TAME grants
 - UCT has the ability to change the nature of the grants and determine whether the money stays with UCT or is distributed to the CTE
- Adopted Proposal:
 - \$75000 to CTE and \$75,000 to TAM and TAME grants and reconsider in April depending on proposals received in February
- Any changes would affect subsequent years

12:30 - 1:05 Discussion led by John Rakestraw

Programming from the CTE-What can we do to get faculty to commit to programming from the CTE-Discussion led by member of the CTE John Rakestraw

- Excellence in teaching day last year was a success
- Planning for Excellence in teaching day this year:
 - The event will be held in May, the Friday after grades are due on Thursday
 - Event where professors reflect on what they did this year and introduce themes for next year
 - Poster section and panel this year to acknowledge what these individuals have done and learn from them
 - Theme for event is yet to be decided
 - Email will be sent out to faculty to generate ideas on issues they identify within their school
- Teaching Matters Discussion on teaching
 - Teaching matters discussion on core, how we teach it, existing core, and how to improve it
 - The CTE is looking for a theme, question, challenge related to teaching that could be brought into teaching
 - Have practical suggestions for faculty
- Question: What does it take to get people to come in the door and have a discussion?
 - Food?
 - Having students attend discussions and discuss their classroom experiences
 - Have interesting discussion topics
- Topics for Discussion:
 - Race
 - Invite black lives matter to campus to have a discussion involving graduate students of color with other students and faculty observing this conversation
 - Follow up with a faculty panel after discussion
 - Panel with students who discuss their classroom experiences as a student of color and what teaching techniques worked for these students
 - Research
 - Identify faculty that want to talk about their research in the classroom
 - Hold a roundtable discussion with 2/3 faculty planning to talk about how they brought their research into their teaching
- Reasons why professors do not attend workshops:
 - They do not like teaching
 - Do not want to change the way they are teaching
- Current workshop themes:
 - Contemplative pedagogy

- Identified a core group of half a dozen faculty that are interested and committed
- The date for the workshop will be announced in the next couple weeks
- 9 faculty are already committed
- Topics/questions: changing existing core courses, role liberal arts play in our culture today
- Purpose is to find “power” faculty – leaders, changers of cultures
- Possible Workshop Themes:
 - Teaching through disruption
 - How to have a discussion in small class settings versus large class settings and strategies for facilitating student discussion
 - How to make teaching bearable
 - Market for applied disciplines – teaching stuff – teach concrete concepts and taught in a different way (appealing for social work) boutique workshops for specific needs within applied disciplines (business school, social work)
 - Conversations in departments – faculty will get more out of it than conversations between departments
 - Student attention spans and how that affects teaching
 - How to make the classroom comfortable for both males and females to help facilitate discussions
 - Peer review of classes by pairing Junior faculty with Senior faculty to motivate senior faculty and share ideas

For Next Meeting:

- Article for possible readings
- Prepare topics for ideas for workshops