

**University Council on Teaching
Meeting of March 12, 2014
Waul House Presentation Room
10:30-12:00**

Present: Jackie Lerner, Kathy Bailey, Sue Barrett, Thomas Groome, Don Hafner, Michael Martin.

Minutes: Minutes from Feb. 12m 2014 were approved.

Business: The committee received an updated report from Pat DeLeeuw (absent) regarding TAMs and TAMEs as follows:

“The total TAM budget is \$150k, and we have agreed to give half of it next year again for the Technology Innovation Grants. So we have \$75k to distribute. I have the TAM applications (11 of them) and TAME applications (3 of them) ready to be photocopied and distributed to whoever will be on this subcommittee. I volunteer; maybe you could find a couple of other people?

- From Dining we have learned that while there is a 25-person minimum for dinners, there is only a 10-person minimum for a lunch menu, and you can order the lunch menu (with its 10-person minimum) at dinner time.
- The construction for the Center for Teaching Excellence will be approved at this week’s Board meeting and will take place over the summer. Applications are coming in for the position of Executive Director, and the ad in the Chronicle of Higher Ed, which will appear this week, should bring in more. The members of the UCT have seen the text of the ad, and will be asked to participate in interviews.”

In the conversation that followed the DeLeeuw report, Jackie Lerner, Sue Barrett, and Kathy Bailey agreed to serve on the committee with Pat to review the TAM and TAME applicants.

Kathy Bailey raised and objected to the Dining Service requirement of a minimum of 25 people for dinner. Jackie will report to Pat and ask for clarification and leniency regarding the 25 person minimum.

Don Hafner presented a report on grade distribution for undergraduates, ranging from Fall 1978 to Fall 2014. It seems that the number of A and A- grades have held steady over the past ten years, each about 25% of all grades. This compares negatively with the years 1978 to 1991 when the A or A- grades were at *circa* 15% each. There was lively discussion but no consensus about how to address the perceived grade inflation.

Don Hafner gave an update on the transition to Google for all faculty. This has already been realized and is proving very successful for BC students. The transition will begin in June for all faculty; it is expected to be trouble free.

Don further reported on the student survey regarding advisement. In sum, BC is significantly below the national statistics on student satisfaction with advisement (CSOM is quite high but its seniors were not surveyed). In our discussion it emerged that there is little or no preparation for new faculty in A&S to do advisement. An “academic planning worksheet” used in LSOE was distributed; the general sentiment was that this or some such tool for advisement should be made available to all faculty.

Upcoming Agenda Items. We tabled further discussion of the report on women undergraduates until the April 9 meeting. Nick Gozik from OIP will also join us on April 9 (Waul House presentation room- 10:30-12:00)

Respectfully submitted: Thomas Groome