

**University Council on Teaching**  
**Meeting of Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2016**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Commenced: 3:00 PM**

**What is the CTE and how can the UCT continue to support the CTE?**

- UCT wants to get an idea of Provost, David Quigley's vision for the UCT.
  - David would like to meet with the committee.
- Kristin Heyer is a new member of the UCT.
- The role of the CTE is explained.
  - The CTE should be a home for teaching faculty, where they can be supported, challenged and engaged
  - The CTE facilitates opportunities for faculty to come together to solve problems in teaching
- Categories of CTE forums:
  - One on one
  - Small Group
  - Institution Wide Celebrations
  - Intensive Faculty Development such as 3-day course design institutes and diversity institutes
- The roles of the UCT and the CTE overlap but the UCT can speak for the faculty and the CTE cannot.
- What is the role of the UCT?
- Should the UCT, with the help of the CTE on developing indicators, give recognition for excellence in teaching in the form of an award?
- The CTE would love to celebrate an award but cannot be involved in the selection process.
- Teacher recognition through awards has dwindled over the years.
- Defining and rewarding good teaching is very important and difficult to do.
- Conversations need to be had on developing a process for selecting and nominating members of teaching faculty for awards.
  - The value of the process must be greater than the value of the award itself.
- The UCT, together with the CTE, will be instrumental in developing this process.
- The award will have the support of the Office of the Vice Provost.
- The CTE has been active in attracting more foot traffic.
- Examples of methods in use:
  - Back to School workshops
  - Informal reports
  - New faculty lunches
- A system is being sketched by the CTE to see if efforts to increase foot traffic are being focused in the right direction. It will be in the form of a survey.
- Foot traffic in the CTE has been very diverse and "frequent flyers" have given great reviews but these sentiments need to be more widespread common thought.

- What can the UCT do to help the CTE? “Inform each other’s work”
  - The UCT can be a source of information on the teaching faculty’s concerns.
  - The UCT can be an advocate for the faculty where the CTE does not have the flexibility.
- Suggestion: The CTE send out a survey inquiring about issues plaguing the teaching faculty. The issues would serve as potential projects for the UCT to be tasked with.
- The UCT should become the forum where the teaching faculty first thinks to go to with their issues.
- Suggestion: An email be sent out to notify teaching faculty of their representatives
- Can Undergraduate directors meet with the UCT?
- Suggestion: The CTE and the UCT have a combined survey useful for both of their objectives. The survey should come from David’s office.
- How useful are student evaluations?
- Evaluations should go hand in hand with a reward system. Too much weight is currently given to student evaluations in assessing excellence in teaching.
- Suggested other tasks the UCT can make their own:
  - Creating more small scale resources for teachers to develop their skills. Travel grants for teacher development workshops is an example.
- The CTE wants to collaborate with the professional schools to celebrate work that has already been done prior to its advent and, to make plans for the future.
- The UCT can be a portal for collaborations between faculty and the CTE and can also help the CTE in servicing faculty needs.
  
- UCT Task force assembled to:
  - Introduce the UCT to the teaching faculty via email
  - Start drawing up a faculty teaching award and nomination process.

**Adjourned: 4:00 PM**

- Next meeting to be held in the CTE’s Innovation lab 1:30-2:45 PM Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Attendees:** Jeff Cohen, Katie McInnis-Diffrich, Audrey Friedman, Jackie Lerner, Kristin Heyer, Stacy Grooters, Kathy Bailey, John Rakestraw, Danielle Taghian, Billy Soo, Courtney Vigo