Minutes of the University Council on Teaching
Monday, Nov 19, 2007
10:30-12:00  Waul House

Present: Chris Hepburn (Chair), Fred Yen, Virginia Reinburg, Don Hafner, Bill Petri, Danny Willis, Sue Barrett, Peter Wilson, Pat De Leeuw

Recorder of Minutes: Jackie Lerner

The minutes of Oct 22 were accepted.

Discussion of moving to a Credit rather than Course based system:

Main points/questions that were raised:

How have other universities managed the transition?

When would we move to this system (coordinating with the new SIS system)- 2 years?
10 Years?

Who would make decisions about courses and credits- a University committee or departments? What are the implications for breadth versus depth of courses? Need to have credits plus a minimum number of courses.

There are many instances of no credit practicums, labs, etc. One issue is to decide how we can give credit to students (and faculty) for the time they spend in these.

Credit based system would allow for the most flexibility and may allow for a way to reward faculty. We could integrate courses for majors and non-majors into the system.

What are the implications for contact hours? What do contact hours include? Student face time? Homework? Faculty Prep? Who will define what is a one, two, three etc credit course?

Should we/how can we collect data on face time for courses?

What is our charge as UCT (Chris reminded us that it is advisory to Bert Garza)

Action: We agree that we have consensus about the idea of moving to a credit system, now we need to bring others into the conversation so we can determine the true implications for all involved.
Applications for TAM and TAME grants are due in February. Chris noted that last year there were many more than could be funded. He suggested putting a cap on the amount of summer salary that could be requested.

After some discussion, it was decided that a cap of $5000 for summer salary (or stipend) would be the rule this year.