
1. Welcome and Introduction of Members (A. Blair): Dr. Blair welcomed new and continuing members of the Advisory Council, noting that about one-third of Council is new. He then explained the relationship between the Office of the Provost and the Center for Instructional Development and Distance Education (CIDDE).

2. Approval of the Minutes (A. Blair): Dr. Blair next asked for a motion from continuing Council members for approval of the June 1, 2010 meeting minutes, which was offered, seconded, and accepted as written. The minutes will be posted to the ACIE website.

3. Report of the Chair (A. Blair): (1) Council Committees: A list of the three Advisory Council committees (Faculty Development; Best Practices Implementation, and Instructional Grants) was distributed to members, along with the statement of the responsibilities of the committees. Dr. Blair noted that there are two standing committees (Best Practices and Faculty Development) that meet regularly and then asked new members to select one of the two committees on which they would like to serve. Dr. Blair noted that the committees report on their activities at full Council meetings and also provide agenda items for full Council discussion.

(2) RFP 2010: A copy of last year’s RFP was distributed for reference. Dr. Blair noted that this year’s RFP will need to be sent out soon so that it can be available for wide distribution to faculty on all five campuses in October. He briefly described the proposal review process, which will be discussed at greater length later in the year, and noted that as a result of the review process last year, the 2010 document contains one minor change in the budget section (on page 3), to clarify the purchase of supplies and equipment; no other changes beyond submission and deadline dates were necessary. One member asked about the success of the program, to which Dr. Blair informed Council that an evaluation of the project was undertaken in 2005. This report is available online and members will get an email with a link directing them to the Council’s website and the report.

4. Provost’s Charge to Council (P. Beeson): Provost Beeson remarked on the Council’s significant impact in the last decade to promote the University’s priority to have strong teaching and learning programs. The Council is an important committee and its members should be proud of what they have accomplished. She noted that the Council’s activities over the last year were worthwhile, most notably the Innovation in Education Awards program. With respect to the Teaching Excellence Showcase, the Provost observed that this event has apparently had mixed success in recent years and is looking forward to receiving Council’s advice with regard to
changes in format. The Faculty Diversity Seminar report suggests that it has had limited impact. She appreciates the care of the Council’s approach to this issue and will look forward to reviewing the final recommendations for this program. The Summer Instructional Development Institute is a successful program that has benefited greatly from the input of Council as well.

For this current academic year, Provost Beeson gave the following charge: (1) Council should continue to recommend projects that will have the greatest impact on teaching and learning in the University via the Innovation in Education Awards Program. (2) Develop recommendations that will enable the purposes of the Teaching Excellence Showcase to serve larger audiences; and (3) Provide advice on how the Provost’s Office might oversee the conducting of teaching evaluations since the University has the technology to complete online evaluations. However, the current OMET evaluations provide important feedback to the faculty and are a component of the promotion and tenure process. There are studies on the impact of online evaluations that should be looked at as well as the experience of other institutions.

5. Report of the Staff Liaison (C. Golden): Ms. Golden gave a presentation on the Council committees’ activities and major priorities from previous years as well as for this academic year, the latter including the challenges of and alternatives to restructuring the Teaching Excellence Showcase. She also noted CIDDE’s continued organizational restructuring, technology upgrades, and its new website. Ms. Golden also distributed the Summer Instructional Development Institute Summary Report 2010. Among the major CIDDE priorities for this year is a greater emphasis on faculty development by working directly with schools and departments, and customizing activities on request; and to offer fewer centralized workshops over the year. At the end of Ms. Golden’s report, one Council member suggested that it would be beneficial for Faculty Development committee members to be given a tour of CIDDE, which she received enthusiastically.

6. Adjournment: With no further business, the Advisory Council adjourned at 11:05 am. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, 3:30 pm, 826 CL.