

Faculty Development Committee Minutes: 1-14-2000

The committee discussed the following topics:

- 1) The need to collaborate more with CILA and the Dean. Decision was made to meet with them to clarify the way a partnership with FDC and CILA could work, so we can complement rather than duplicate or compete with the other.
- 2) There was agreement on the need to explore ways for recipients of release time and summer grants to disseminate and share work accomplished. Some options discussed, which need further examination, included panel presentation(s), a faculty development newsletter, and/or article(s) for the St. Olaf magazine or Inside St. Olaf. Recipients ought to be given the option of writing up a report instead, if they prefer. Consensus also existed re negative, summative connotations of "accountability" vs. positive, formative connotations of "dissemination."
- 3) Agreement on the need to package a PDA proposal for the next capital campaign. It was deemed important to trust faculty to know what they will find renewing and serve a professional development. Faculty should be allowed freedom to determine uses of a PDA. While several different faculty development reports have recommended PDAs, there has not always been a consistent level of support for them apparently.
- 4) Considerable discussion re student-centered learning, pursuant to Peter Frederick's visit to St. Olaf. There is considerable demand on faculty to pursue research and publication with little professional recognition (especially when coming up for tenure) on areas such as team teaching, interdisciplinary collaboration, and community service. Therefore, for there to be greater faculty commitment to the latter, there needs to be some type of institutional recognition that time spent in these areas will count.

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