

Minutes of Faculty Development Committee: 11-29-98

Present: Carter, DeVries, Grenberg, Hanson, Lindley

First order of business was the consideration of multiple grant applications by one individual. The committee decided to accept multiple applications, with the stipulation that, all other considerations being equal, preference would be given to those who had not received a major grant in the same year. Also mentioned was the fact that some faculty who had been turned down in past years were reluctant to apply again, and that the transfer of some funds from summer grants to enhance release time grants had been rejected by Dean Pence last year.

Details of the upcoming Mellby lecture were finalized: the reception will be immediately afterwards in the same room; catering will be arranged by Ray, possibly from Blue Monday; 750 brochures will be printed and distributed by Jody.

Discussion then turned to the Task Force headed by David Schodt. The merits of being an observer or a member were debated; it was finally decided that the observer route was preferred. There is some concern that having an observer at the meetings might be interpreted by the Dean as this committee's implicit sanction of the Task Force's findings.

This led to the question: does this committee have real authority to present its ideas to the faculty for action? Can we further the Faculty Development cause by matching faculty preferences with the wishes of potential donors? Considerable discussion of faculty preferences followed with ideas for both using past surveys and once again soliciting faculty responses, with the ultimate goal a recommendation to the Task Force before it takes up the subject itself. It was agreed that each member of the committee will contact the members of their own faculties, through e-mail or direct contact, or both. Susan Lindley has already circulated a sample memo to use. In addition, Jody will see that the department chairs will receive copies of the Barbour and Humke reports, and that a Website will be established with this information.

As the deadline for Release-Time Grants is 11/2, our next meeting will be Thursday 11/12 at 11:30, at which time we will narrow the field of grant applications and share the results from our quest for faculty feedback.

Respectfully submitted,

David Carter