Meeting Notes

Date:  Friday February 25, 2010

Time:  12:50 – 1:40 pm

Place:  239 Tigert Hall

The Academy met on the date and times indicated above.  The meeting agenda and supporting materials discussed in the meeting are appended below, including annotations made by the Secretary of the Academy.

AGENDA

1. Discussion of the 2010-2011 Induction Selection process
2. Status update: Teaching and Learning Center
3. Creation of Standing Committees
4. Discussion of draft of internal policies and practices document
5. Items from the floor
1. DISCUSSION OF THE 2010-2011 INDUCTION SELECTION PROCESS

Due date: Wed March 16
Tentative meeting time: Friday March 11, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Tentative selection process: Preliminary ranking: Assessment form (Attached)
Discussion of lower-ranked candidates (rank promotion)
Discussion of higher ranked candidates

Some principles: Avoiding advocacy
Basing selection strictly on the package contents


2. STATUS OF PROPOSAL FOR A CAMPUS-WIDE CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING EXCELLENCE

Dr. Long will present the proposal to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on March 3 at 3:00PM in 226 Tigert Hall. She will seek Steering Committee approval for presenting the project to the Senate floor on March 24 scheduled for 3:00-5:00 pm at the Reitz Union Auditorium.

3. CREATION OF STANDING COMMITTEES

We have previously decided to define standing committees, namely, committees that are of a permanent nature. The following is a list of our current committees, some of which may be candidates for a redefinition as a standing committee.

1. Teaching and Learning Center Committee

Mission: Establish and collaborate with a campus-wide Teaching and Learning Center (TLC), to educate UF graduate students and faculty on pedagogical practices, leading to a national reputation for UF as an institution committed to excellence in education.

Chair: Marianne Schmink

Members: Linda Behar-Horenstein, Greg Sawyer, Sid Homan, Doug Levey
2. Induction Procedures

Mission: Simplify the process for applying for membership in the Academy and ensure that correct and unambiguous application instructions are disseminated to the academic community. Specific projects include revising last year’s procedure (including input from most recent inductees), drafting a proposal for improvements, coordinating the annual induction process including the specification of deadlines for announcements application-submission, applicant-evaluation process, and assisting the Provost in the wording of the induction letter (include a statement indicating the lifetime right to use the title Distinguished Teaching Scholar, state expectations during the first 3 years of membership, etc.)

Chair: Gail Kauwell

Members: Oscar D. Crisalle. Additional members are sought.

3. Honors Program and Academic Quality

Mission: Identify venues for the Academy to provide assistance in a formal fashion to the Honors Program and to the Center for Undergraduate Research, and identify and seek to implement policies, practices and procedures that lead to improvement in the academic quality of UF curriculum, with an emphasis on large-scope issues. Example projects include the analysis and cure of grade inflation problems, service in the advisory committee of the Honors Program and Center for Undergraduate Research, etc.

Chair: Howard Louthane

Members: Nigel Richards, Sandy Berg, William Logan, Miklos Bona, Michael Olexa. Elliot Douglas

4. Academic Best Practices

Mission: Identify best practices for running Academy affairs, including election processes, and other internal policies and practices. Specific projects may include maintaining a document of internal policies and practices, and surveying the mission, vision, and activities of groups similar to our Academy that are currently functioning in other universities, (including Texas, Virginia, and Southern California) for the purpose of adopting and adapting their best practices.

Chair: A chair is sought.

Members: Members are sought.

5. Funding Initiatives Committee

Mission: Identify opportunities for UF participation in large funding initiatives from governmental or private sources, and help to identify and establish a faculty and administrative team to draft and submit proposals on the topic of pedagogy. Specific tasks include making a list of funding sources, discussing with the Provost opportunities to provide material support required to qualify as a grant applicant, and bringing together a team of faculty with suitable background to take on the task of writing the proposal.
Chair: A chair is sought.

Members: Miklos Bona

6. Graduate School Support Committee

Mission: Identify opportunities for supporting the activities of the Graduate School. Address issues of large significance to the educational mission of the university, including the promotion of academic honesty principles, and the implementation of preventative and remedial procedures that enhance academic values and ensure fair implementation of investigative procedures.

Chair: Nigel Richards

Members: Doug Levey. Other members are sought

7. International Initiatives Committee

Mission: Identify opportunities for enhancing the UF curriculum with international experiences. Specific projects include drafting a vision document for internationalizing the graduate UF curriculum, including study abroad programs for doctoral students, international dual degrees, as well as international ethics and cultural awareness issues.

Chair: Ranga Narayanan

Members: Marianne Schmick, Doug Levey, Miklos Bona, Oscar Crisalle
4. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT OF INTERNAL POLICIES DOCUMENT

Article 6 reworked by Sid Homan (first draft)

Article 6: Orientation and guidelines for new inductees

6.1 The Academy expects that all new inductees either: 1. to join one or more ongoing sub-committees focusing on a specific project of the Academy; or 2. after they feel they are sufficiently oriented with the principles of the Academy, to define and pursue a worthy project.

6.2 It is assumed that members will participate in all Academy meetings (and those of any sub-committees the member has joined) throughout the duration of their careers. Since each member is compensated with a three-year grant, an Academy member is expected to attend such meetings with a very high regularity, and, for this reason, schedules should be adjusted so members will be free from conflicts that would interfere with their attendance. Extended absences because of Sabbatical leaves and other formally approved leaves will be reasonably compensated by extending by an appropriate period of time for that three-year period of mandatory attendance.

6.3 New inductees are required to join (or initiate) at least one committee during their first term of induction.

6.4 All members are expected to formulate a concrete plan of how they will contribute to the vision and mission of The Academy. The plan may be an entirely new initiative, or a proposal that would complement an on-going project. Collaboration activities with other members are acceptable and encouraged. Such plans should be presented in an Academy meeting no later than the first of November of the second year of induction.

6.5 New inductees are encouraged to participate actively in other projects of The Academy different from their own proposed projects.