
ACADEMY OF DISTINGUISHED TEACHING SCHOLARS

Office Of The Provost
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Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday October 17, 2010

Time: 12:50 – 1:40 pm

Place: 239 A 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 **Vision and Mission** statements of the Academy
2. Discussion with **Henry T. Frierson**, *Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School* (20 minutes)
3. Discussion of the **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS** for the rest of the Fall semester
4. Discussion of *Proposal for a Campus-Wide Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence*
5. Discussion of committee mission statements
6. Discussion of Standing Committees
7. **ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR**

MEETING HANDOUTS AND NOTES

1. VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS OF THE ACADEMY

Mission

The Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars serves as an advisory group, with the mission to develop and recommend implementation of policies that enhance the University of Florida's ability to continuously improve its high level of academic excellence.

Vision

The Academy believes that original research inspires great teachers and that the challenges of teaching cultivate research. The university must create a habitat where research— whether into the enigmas of quantum mechanics or the beauty of lyric poetry, whether into the distant reaches of philosophy or the secret life of the nematode— provokes the insights of teaching, and where rigorous teaching originates in fresh research. To pass the knowledge of one generation on to the next, the university must foster the research that is the heart of learning. Where the teacher is surprised and enlightened, the student will follow.

2. DISCUSSION WITH DEAN FRIERSON

We are pleased to host *Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School* Henry T. Frierson. The purpose of his visit is to learn about the mission and vision of the Academy, and to engage in a conversation that may lead to the identification of venues for the Academy to support Dean Frierson's programs at the Graduate School.

Dean Frierson's contact information is as follows:

164 Grinter Hall

POB 115500

Phone: 352 392 6622

E-mail address: hfrierson@ufl.edu

3. DISCUSSION OF CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

We remaining meetings of the Academy for the Fall 2010 semester are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday November 10, 12:50-1:40 PM Room 239 Tigert Hall

Wednesday November 24, 12:50-1:40 PM Room 239 Tigert Hall

Wednesday December 1, 12:50-1:40 PM Room 239 Tigert Hall

4. DISCUSSION OF *PROPOSAL FOR A CAMPUS-WIDE CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING EXCELLENCE*

Refer to the latest version of the proposal (distributed).

5. DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENTS

1. Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence

Mission: Improve UF resources to enhance the institution's ability to more effectively achieve its teaching mission. Specific projects include the development of a University Teaching Center (identify venues for educating UF graduate students and faculty on pedagogical practices, leading to establishing a national reputation for UF as seed institution for university-level educators).

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: 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 Louthan

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

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.

Chair: A chair is sought.

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

8. To be proposed (*Potential candidate: Distance Education Committee?*)

Mission: All Academy members are invited to propose the creation of a committee with a mission to address needs associated with the Academy's objectives.