Approved Minutes
Committee on Teaching
Nov. 10, 2010
3:30 – 5:00


Members Excused: H. Hathaway

Meeting called to order at 3:35
Reflection by Jay Caulfield

Approval of Minutes
Minutes approved from Oct. 13 with one small correction (Kristin Haglund)

Announcements and Information
Way Klingler Teaching Enhancement Award nominations will be circulated Nov. 30th.

Professor of the Year – it was clarified that undergraduate faculty can be nominated by individual students, faculty or administrators, but Committee on Teaching will select the finalist. An announcement that nominations are now being sought appeared in News Briefs and will, most likely, appear in the Tribune on Nov. 11, 2010. Concern was expressed that the Tribune staff had not corrected spelling errors identified in the proof. In addition it was felt that the design and font selection for the ad was not optimal.

Continuing Business
Excellence in Teaching Award – Susan Schneider clarified, based on the COT minutes from last year, that the committee was satisfied with the selection process, although not perfect, but did have a concern with the lack of nominations which made it possible for a candidate with a single nomination to be eligible for one of the 10 finalist positions.

Dave Buckholdt provided five alternatives to last year’s process:
1. Leave as is. While the process is flawed the results have been good
2. Require X nominations to be considered
3. Invite one nomination from each college, three from A&S*
4. Invite all departments or equivalent units to submit a nomination *
5. Invite any two persons to submit a nomination – faculty, staff and students *
*Nominations must be supported by one page rationale
After a lengthy conversation, it was decided that the process was sound, but we just needed to better promote it. It was agreed that we:

- Remind student organizers to nominate a faculty member
- Remind units that have not nominated in the past to consider a nomination
- Be clearer – more transparent – about the process for selection
- Inform faculty advisors (for student organizations) of the criteria and process for nomination and encourage them to prompt the student organizations to become more involved
- Be more strategic in how we encourage students to nominate a faculty member. Students need to know “what’s in it for me”. Suggestions included reminding students they have a “voice” and they should use it, nominating a deserving faculty member is an honor for both the faculty member and his/her department.
- Post short videos of students talking about last year’s winners ... perhaps describing a transformation teaching/learning moment. These videos could be posted on the Center for Teaching and Learning Website or the MU homepage.
- Customize the announcement for a student audience

New Business
Next month’s discussion will address interest expressed in revisiting the rubric used to review the 10 finalist’s dossiers.

Meeting adjourned at 5:03
Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Schweizer