The Committee on Comprehensive Evaluation of Teaching
February 11, 2010 Minutes

Attending: Adam Fingerhut, Brian Leung, Maria Quijada, and Kevin Wetmore

Resource Persons: Christine Chavez, Jackie Dewar, and Nick Mattos

Handouts: Statement on Effective Teaching, BCLA Teaching Review Framework

The meeting began at 10:00am with introductions of the committee members.

Jackie shared some background on the committee, including the work of the Student Evaluation of Teaching / Student Rating of Teaching Committee, the work of the Committee on Excellence in Teaching, and the charge of Faculty Senate to form the Committee on Comprehensive Evaluation of Teaching. She emphasized the importance of multiple measures to evaluate teaching for all of these, and used the Guidelines for Interpreting Student Evaluation of Teaching, the new course evaluation form, and the Statement on Effective Teaching as examples of the work that had come before.

A question was posed as to how this work connects to the Chief Academic Officers deadline of April 1 to submit guidelines for evaluating departments, programs, etc. It was noted that this committee could inform and be informed by this directive, but that they were independent of one another. Committee members discussed the possibility of gathering information from the CAO and acting as a sounding board to share between departments and programs.

The Committee is interested in understanding both what we value in teaching and how teaching is evaluated. There is an option to focus on method at a time, work more broadly on the need for multiple measures. Some that were mentioned were peer evaluation, syllabus review, considering how student evaluation data is reported, and a teaching portfolio review.

For the next meeting committee members should gather materials and documents that reflect how teaching is evaluated in their department to share with the group. Some documents to consider that will be distributed by email from CTE are as follows:

1. Feldman article
2. CET Statement on Effective Teaching (already distributed)
3. BCLA Teaching Review Framework (already distributed)
4. Faculty Handbook statement on teaching

Committee members were also interested in students’ perspectives and decided to have informal conversations with students to find out how they define effective or ineffective instruction and instructors.

Committee members suggested asking students in class to write down the following:

- 3 adjectives to describe an effective instructor
- 3 adjectives to describe an ineffective instructor
- 3 adjectives to describe effective instruction
- 3 adjectives to describe ineffective instruction

It was noted that the Committee on Excellence in Teaching is planning a student panel on the teaching statement later in the semester.

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 4 at 10am in CTE.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am