

Delta State University
Student Engagement Committee
Wednesday, November 20, 2006

Present: Corlis Snow, David Salinero, Paul Hankins, Greg Hospodor, David Hebert, Elise Jenkins, and Paul Starkey

Meeting Time: 3:30-4:40

Addressing Dr. Thornell's Concerns

Participants

Who will be the participants of the faculty orientation/course? The committee agreed that the focus should be on full-time tenure track faculty as well as full-time instructors.

The committee also addressed the need to provide these resources to adjuncts as well. Would a one-day orientation be appropriate? Scheduling may pose a problem since adjuncts have other professional responsibilities and teach courses at night. Dr. Starkey commented that the college deans are currently working on an orientation program for adjuncts.

The committee decided that full-time faculty "and others as recommended by the dean or provost" will be the participants. All agreed though that some program should be in place to address faculty development for adjuncts as well.

Who will deliver the content?

If a course is developed, there should be one primary facilitator who oversees the entire administration and development of the course. Additionally, there will be several "experts" who will actually deliver the content. The committee wants the same people to participate year to year to provide consistency of content.

What will the incentive be for people to participate? If administrators, participation would most likely be seen as part of their regular job duties. If faculty, there could be some sort of recognition that would address tenure or merit pay considerations.

This program should be coordinated with all deans and chairs so that there will not be any scheduling conflicts. All participating faculty's schedules should be clear of teaching or other administrative responsibilities during the scheduled sessions.

Faculty Engagement Course

The committee decided that a course would be the best delivery method. Members agreed on GST 600 with a working title of *Faculty Engagement*, acknowledging the need to connect the title with the direction of the course. *In each and every session, the focus should always reinforce the theme of engagement.* Dr. Starkey will write up a course description to include in the next course catalog. To portray the value of the course, we will have to give some thought to marketing and packaging.

Desired Outcomes

To evaluate the course's effectiveness, the SEC (or another relevant body) will look at faculty satisfaction, reduced turnover, and subsequent course application. These outcomes can be assessed in a variety of ways (surveys, comparative data).

Relation to QEP

The course outcomes (satisfaction, reduced turnover, and course application) directly relate to the goals set out in the QEP. If we can achieve the desired outcomes for the course, then we will also have met the relevant QEP goals.

Other Business

Since Dr. Hospodor will be leaving the committee at the end of the semester, a new SEC representative for the Faculty Retention Committee had to be selected. Dr. Hebert agreed to serve as liaison.

Dr. Hankins will email the committee to set up the next meeting.