Minutes for the FDEC meeting held on Wednesday, September 8, 2010

Present: Bill Abbott, Jessica Davis, Angela Harkins, Joel Goldfield, Emily Smith, Meredith (Wallace) Kazer, Vishnu Vinekar; Ex-officio/invited guests: Paul Fitzgerald, SJ, Roben Torosyan

Absent: Aaron Perkus

Meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM and ended at 11:00 AM

1. The first order of business was a formal welcome to the new members of the committee by the out-going chair Bill Abbott: Jessica, Joel, Emily, Meredith

2. Chair election: Bill presented Angela Harkins as the chair candidate for the ay 2010-2011. With no objections and running un-opposed, Angela was elected chair by acclamation.

3. Approval of minutes from Thursday, April 8, 2010. Bill made a motion to approve the minutes; Vishnu seconded. There was a brief discussion of minutes about the IDEA subcommittee: Joel inquired if this subcommittee was still in existence; Bill said no. Paul gave some context by filling in some of the events from the summer meetings of the Academic Council: the Academic Council would like to revisit the IDEA form in 3 years time. There may be another IDEA subcommittee at that time. Other brief updates about IDEA from the Academic Council: (A) The Yellow sheets (formative) will continue to be used for 2 years; (B) there is a paper and paperless option (each has pros and cons); (C) the data will be archived at IDEA. Two members voted to approve the minutes as they stand. Six members of the committee abstained.

4. Invitation of Guests for the Academic Year: A motion was made to invite CAE members, Roben Torosyan and Kathy Nantz to the meetings. Vote: all were in favor. FUSA rep, Caitlyn Ligiouri, was identified as a student guest for the academic year. The chair will send out invitations to these invited guests. Some discussion of getting a grad representative took place. Paul moved to invite a graduate student representative to our meetings; Emily seconded this motion. All were in favor. Unfinished business: while all were in favor of inviting a graduate student rep, no decision was made about whom to invite. This matter will be taken up at the next meeting.

5. IDEA:
   a. Organization of IDEA trainers for departments and schools. Roben announced the training session on Thursday, Sept. 9 from 9:45-10:45 in lib. 107D. There will also be another “train the trainer workshop” at a future time/date.
   b. Some discussion of the FUSA questions took place. FUSA negotiated with the Academic Council, the inclusion of 5 questions. These questions will be included. Faculty will have the choice to not report these questions. Some reasons why faculty may not want to have their numbers reported included various scenarios such as new faculty who may not have a reputation among the students and also it may not be wise to include brand new courses that may use innovative pedagogy. Jessica recommended that another announcement go out to the faculty highlight the need to opt out of the FUSA report if they so desire.

6. Faculty Development Day:
a. Bill gave a quick assessment of last year’s two Faculty Development Days.

b. Possible topics for this fall’s Faculty Development Day were discussed: changes to 1st year experience; advising/exploratory advising—especially the undecided major; academic integrity; Eportfolios; using course management systems. There was also an expressed desire to offer a session that includes a focus on graduate students. All agreed that a grad student focus can be accommodated with the simultaneous break-out sessions that were done in the spring 2010.

c. The Committee decided that the topic of the Faculty Development Day will be “Student (Academic) Engagement.” This is scheduled for Friday, December 10, from 12:30-3:00 with lunch. It was agreed that Beth Boquet and Debbie Chappell should be involved in the planning of this development day. Angela will invite Beth and Debbie to part/all of the next meeting to involve them in the planning.

7. Scheduling: The remaining meetings of the fall semester were set: Friday, October 8 from 3:30-5:00 PM (Bill minutes); Wednesday, November 10 from 10:00 -11:00 AM (Jessica minutes); Wednesday, December 1 from 10:00-11:00 AM (Joel minutes). The Faculty Development Day is scheduled for the reading day, Friday, December 10 from 12:30-3:00.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted by

Angela Kim Harkins

Religious Studies