Increased Collaboration Ad Hoc Committee Fall 2013

Minutes

Date 09/13/2013 Start Time 10:20 AM Adjournment Time 11:25 AM Location Kitty DeGree Nursing Building Conference Room

Type of Meeting ☒ Regular ☐ Special

CHAIR Donna Rhorer (acting)
SECRETARY Chris Gissendanner
ATTENDEES Donna Rhorer, Chris Gissendanner, Jana Giles, John Pope, Cynthia Robertson, Seth Hall, Juliet Burgess
ABSENT (EXCUSED) Sandra Lemoine, Denny Ryman

Agenda

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seth Hall was introduced as the staff representative on the committee

The next meeting will take place in Strauss Hall on Sept. 27, 2013 from 10:15am to 11:15am.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Minutes from the 9/6/13 meeting were distributed. A motion by Juliet Burgess to approve was seconded by John Pope. Minutes approved unanimously.

The committee discussed the following documents that were provided by Dr. Pani at our first meeting. These included: Chapter 4, “Creative Paths to Boosting Academic Productivity” by William F. Massy from the book “Reinventing Higher Education” (Ben Wildavsky, Andrew P. Kelley, and Kevin Carey, editors); Chapter 4, “Emerging Network Culture” from the book “Crisis on Campus” by Mark C. Taylor; A Chronicle of Higher Education article, “Communicating Across the Academic Divide” by Myra H. Strober; and a transcript of a talk given by Dan Pink on the surprising science of motivation.

Major conclusions from these documents were discussed as were specific lessons, recommendations, and ideas that could be applied to ULM.

Some of the issues we discussed included:

1) Need for conflict resolution skills, need for people to be willing to dialogue
2) Cultural differences among disciplines (as in Strober reading), such as quantitative versus qualitative approaches. Sometimes these differences are between departments, and sometimes within them. More communication and mutual understanding needed in this regard.
3) Lack of understanding of how to measure success of teaching/learning in different disciplines. For instance, English is a much more indeterminate field than nursing or pharmacy, and therefore presents challenges in measuring success.
4) Lack of understanding about how time and resources are used in various disciplines; for instance, in the Humanities, little time is spent in the classroom, and much more is spent in preparation and grading, as compared to, for instance, nursing or science or studio art. Yet all may require about the same amount of total time and energy spent.
5) Need to reduce paperwork, redundancy, improve operational and organizational management and paperflow across ULM
6) Too many disruptive changes at ULM in recent years have left confusion and gaps in procedure
7) Google’s 20% ROWE (Results Only Work Environment) is already the academic model, supposedly, where we have a large percentage of our time outside of classes and service commitments in order to pursue our research. We don't need Google to tell us what we already know. But at ULM we don't really have this much time allowed for ROWE.

CONCLUSIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

None