REAL Council

Minutes

March 10, 2011, 4:00 p.m., Admin 208

Attendees: Denise Martinez, Johnny Robinson, Justin Carrell, Tara Whitson, Darla Doty, Trey Berend, Art Low, Benni Konvicka
By Phone: Melissa Becker, Kim Rynearson

Handouts:
- Agenda

Discussion:
1. Previous items:
   - Identify and recruit high impact areas
     - Benni – gen ed? – engl 111/112 too packed, maybe tech writing?
     - Denise/Art – planted some seed with Ag (Kyle McGregor)
       - Also, what can the student clubs do? Maybe combine chem, geo, engineering, etc.?
     - Trey – has had some discussions with AS&D; will discuss further with Kyle McGregor – teacher and non-teacher interns.
       - Also contact capstone instructors
     - Melissa – PD1 being conducted as an ALE and will continue in Fall
       - PD2 and PD3 are not yet ALES but Melissa will look into it.
     - Kim – intro to Psych – undergrad research course; Mandy Mason and Jennifer Gibson; Kim will look into this one.

2. Website
   - Continues to be updates as needed; check it periodically

3. Current items
   - Any concerns or issues from current ALEs?
     - Grant disbursement process – was confusing; seems to be better defined now.
       - Please note to any inquiries – there is no notification process that lets us know when an ALE is complete. Any grant payments are initiated by the ALE supervisor. If it is a stipend we go in and see if there is a reflection and an artifact.
     - Chalk and Wire
       - There is a fear of the tool – more among faculty and staff than from students
         - Faculty/staff don’t want to get trained
         - Students seem to pick it up easily but don’t see the purpose
         - Good support is received when they call x1960
Other tools are already being used in some places such as Ag (McGregor)
  - In C&W, note students are able to just put links to the other materials
  - Trey will look into what tools are being used.
- Do we want to be flexible on the tool?
  - Could require the rubric/reflection to still be done and supervisor supplies us data.
  - Tradeoff: using C&W may deter some ALES, but consistent evaluation of the SLOs is needed...
  - For continued discussion...
- Idea – C&W “sharing day” to showcase how it can be used, its benefit, and its ease of use.
  - The word “reflection” is a bit touchy-feely for the COST folks in particular; maybe call it an “experience evaluation”.
  - Concerns regarding student buy-in: some reports of students wanting to do the activity but not wanting to do the follow up exercises;
    - Requires a culture shift, but most feel it is not so much of an issue with the students; could be more an issue with supervising the follow up exercises.
  - Denise – clarify in the instructions that the supervisor completes the app.
- Timing of the next call for proposals
  - Applications will be due April 15. Announcement will go out after spring break (Denise)
- Begin considering how to ask to be incorporated into FYE/orientation
  - Itinerary is too packed already
  - But the parents are there and they may help push the students
    - Darla sees the parents; can incorporate a plug
  - Maybe put a flier in their binder materials
  - Denise – see Elizabeth Wallace about this.
  - Texan-to-Texan may be another effective venue – keep open for discussion
- Cords for graduation? (thanks Marilyn/Will)
  - Yes, students love cords; Denise – look into these
  - Justin/Tara – individual student names, ALE, and performance
    - Probably need demographic info
    - Meet with Denise
- Unused ALE grants from this year. Last minute known potential apps?
  - Let Denise know ASAP if you have any candidates to apply.
  - Potential ones so far:
    - Goderya – Undergrad research, radio astronomy
    - Rinard – Undergrad research or practicum, volcanoes, Hawaii
    - Darla – internship?
    - PD class?

4. Adjourn – 5:10