
Advisement Workshops

Deb Weiss will send out a list of those who have volunteered to give the LEP Advisement Workshops.

Affinity Groups, Coordinators and Consultants for Nine Key Areas of Knowledge

Jim Tait outlined for the committee the differentiation between coordinators and consultants. Coordinators would be charged with forming and leading affinity groups in each Area of Knowledge. Consultants would be charged with helping those who are writing Tier 2 courses.

The committee suggested that the role of Coordinator and Consultant can be consolidated so as to be handled by one person; however, Jim Tait pointed out that the job of coordinator is probably more time-intensive than that of consultant; thus, some folks might be more inclined to volunteer for one or the other rather than both.

Deb commented that she envisioned that the affinity groups would be initially convened by the LEP Director and that each group would select its own coordinator.

Liz Keenan offered the proposal that affinity group membership be open to all interested full-time faculty members (stipulating that the full-time designation can be revisited at a later time) and that the coordinator be elected from out of the group. The coordinator should be someone who has a course or has proposed one. She further suggested that consultants will be appointed by Polly, Jim and Deb from a list of faculty with expertise in each area.

Liz’s proposal precipitated a long discussion.

The committee discussed whether or not full-time would include one-year appointments and whether or not the group should also include part-time faculty. The committee voted to leave this decision up to the affinity group itself.

Coordinators

There was much discussion regarding proposed qualifications for coordinators. Some raised the specter of those who might have their own agenda, or even want to do harm to the program. Nonetheless, the general feeling followed John DaPonte’s suggestion that we owe it to our colleagues to believe that they act in the interest of the University and their students.
Deb called for a straw poll, which indicated that the affinity groups should be free to choose their own coordinators.

Elsie Okobi expressed concern that there is no compensation available.

**Consultants**

There was some discussion regarding consultants with regard to number and qualifications. Ideally, consultants would be those who have taught Tier 2 courses; however, for obvious reasons this is premature.

Armen Marsoobian pointed to the difficulty in some cases to identify authorship of any given course. This could further complicate the requirement that consultants be those who have written a Tier 2 course.

The committee discussed whether or not to limit the number of consultants to two per area or to constitute a pool of volunteers. We also discussed the mechanism for selecting consultants. It was suggested that Polly and area coordinators could request volunteers from the affinity groups. After further discussion, the group generally agreed that Polly might, through contact, encourage possible consultants willing to attend the affinity groups ready to volunteer.

**Affinity Groups**

Regarding constituting the affinity groups themselves, Jim made the following motion: We Move that the Director of the Liberal Education Program convene Tier 2 affinity groups based upon Areas of Knowledge as soon as possible. The motion was approved by the committee for presentation to UCF.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40.