University Advisory Council on Teaching Meeting
October 4, 2001 4:30 p.m.


1. Guest: Interim Provost Woody Hunter. Woody began the meeting by informing the group of the renovations that will be taking place in Candler Library, our current meeting place. The renovations will be extensive and are intended to bring the building up to the standard of other campus buildings. While this will necessitate a change of meeting venue for next semester, UACT will continue to meet in the CTC boardroom through the end of this semester. Next, he confirmed the personnel changes we had discussed at the last meeting. He noted that Susan Frost is now working for President Chace as the Vice President for Strategic Development, while UACT remains under the purview of the Provost's office. Assistant Vice Provost Kim Loudermilk is now responsible for UACT and will be the committee's new ex-officio member. Woody introduced Kim, who expressed her enthusiasm for working with the group. Woody also reiterated the full support of the Provost's office for UACT and discussed with the group the central importance of the group's mission and focus on teaching.

2. Maryam Alavi, Master Teachers Program. Maryam reported on her experience participating in the annual Master Teachers Program held at Georgia State in May. The program was led by two professors in GSU's Business School. It included 33 participants from a variety of disciplines and schools from across the U.S., including two other faculty from Emory's Business School and several faculty from GSU. (While they try to limit attendance to around 30, participants were clamoring to get into the program.) The cost was $925.

Maryam described the program as intense, requiring hard work, but very productive. The topics covered were general and universally applicable, and included such possibilities as getting video feedback on teaching styles and syllabus feedback. The facilitators "practiced what they preached" by leading the groups in a very interactive style. The program also emphasized practicality, providing participants with specific, usable teaching strategies. She felt that GSU's program would be a good model for Emory to follow.

Discussion among UACT members followed, and some of the ideas that emerged included the following:
- running a pilot program here at Emory with peer evaluation before and after
- inviting Harvey Brightman (one of the co-facilitators) to the next UACT meeting
- inviting people from other schools
- or, alternatively, focusing on building a learning community here at Emory
- including graduate students

The group agreed that any further ideas on this topic should be forwarded to Gary before the next meeting.
3. **Mel Levine Update.** This event was very successful - his lecture on September 10th drew a full house to the Tull Auditorium, and his workshop on the 11th was going well when interrupted by the tragic events of that day. Kirsten will provide members with more information about his return as soon as it is available. (Note: this event has since been rescheduled: Mel Levine will be returning to finish the workshop on the morning of Tuesday, January 29th. More details to follow.)

4. **Upcoming events.** Members were reminded that Lee Shulman, President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, would be on campus on October 23rd, and encouraged to come to the events. (Note: Dr. Shulman's visit generated great interest on campus, and we are happy to report that it was very successful. Lee had dinner with a small group of faculty, morning meetings with Jewish Studies and the Commission on Research at Emory, a lunch lecture with 75 faculty, and a meeting with 45 faculty and graduate students from Educational Studies!)

We also mentioned that Richard Light's visit to Oxford, originally scheduled for mid-September, was tentatively rescheduled for November 29th. We will keep members informed as plans are solidified, including the possibility of bringing Dr. Light to the Atlanta campus.

5. **Student meals and peer evaluation programs.** Descriptions of both of these micro-grant programs were distributed to deans of the schools, and a few responses have been received. Members also received these descriptions for their information, and the group was informed that UACT would again be supporting Pam Hall's request to supplement her NEH grant for similar programs in the College. Christine Loflin asked that we send these announcements to Oxford (which we have subsequently done).

6. **UACT logo.** As it turns out, UACT had a logo that was used for some materials in previous years. This existing logo was approved by the members for continued use.

Respectfully submitted by Kirsten Rambo.