

University Advisory Council on Teaching Meeting

April 4, 2002

4:00 pm

In attendance: Michael Lubin, Gary Smith, Alan Otsuki, Helen O'Shea, Kim Loudermilk, Maryam Alavi, Steve Nowicki, Marshall Gregory, Kirsten Rambo.

Before the meeting, Allison Adams, Managing Editor of the Academic Exchange (AE), spoke briefly to the members about the publication and informed them of a survey that AE will be conducting in the coming weeks. Allison urged the committee members to complete the survey and to encourage the faculty in their schools to complete it as well. Members also gave Allison a lot of positive feedback on AE in general, noting that they have been very pleased with it overall.

1. Planning for Next Year: Speakers. Gary and Kirsten proposed to the group several suggestions for speakers, both external and on-campus.

External: For external speakers, the group discussed Craig Nelson, whose name had come up before. Greg has seen Nelson speak and affirmed that he was good. The group agreed to invite Nelson to do an all-day workshop for a smaller faculty group (35-45 participants), in addition to a lunchtime lecture for a larger audience (closer to 60-70), on November 12th. They also suggested we invite him to come early enough on November 11th so that UACT members can take him out to dinner. Kirsten will follow up on this. Kirsten circulated some information on Leon Botstein, president of Bard College and conductor of the American Symphony Orchestra. He has written a provocative book on high school and college education and has appeared on TV with Oprah and Peter Jennings. This kind of speaker might draw a broader audience from within and outside of Emory, a la Mel Levine. Gary suggested that Kirsten distribute some more information to the group so that members can provide her with feedback via email.

Internal: The following panels were proposed:

1) Teaching and Disabilities

- a. Wendy Newby, Ph.D., Assistant Dean, Emory College and Director of Faculty Resources for Inclusive Instruction
- b. Rosemarie Garland-Thomson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Women's Studies whose primary research area is Disability Studies
- c. Suggestions welcome!

2) Innovative Approaches to Teaching in the Professional Schools

- a. Dan Rodriguez, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Organization and Management, Business School (on classroom technologies)
- b. Ruth Parker, M.D., Associate Professor, Medicine, Division of General Medicine (on question-based learning method)
- c. David Kleinbaum, Ph.D., Professor of Epidemiology, RSPH (on interactive teaching and/or distance learning)

3) Teaching Undergraduates

- a. Bobbi Patterson, Ph.D., Director, Theory Practice Learning Program and

- Scholars Program; Senior Lecturer, Department of Religion, Emory College
- b. Patrick Allitt, Ph.D., Professor of American History, Emory College and author of a soon-to-be-published book on “the art of teaching.”
 - c. Pat Marsteller, Ph.D., Director, Hughes Undergraduate Science Initiative; Senior Lecturer, Department of Biology, Emory College

Members approved of these suggestions and agreed to provide more feedback once they received the info in an email from Kirsten. Maryam also suggested a teaching and technology panel that might be helpful both as an additional internal panel and also as part of the upcoming Master Teacher Program that UACT is planning. Kim suggested that once we have all these panels confirmed, we can send a flyer around campus listing all of the upcoming UACT events for the semester. Steve suggested that in the future, a survey of faculty might be a good way to remind them of all that UACT has done in the past while simultaneously soliciting their feedback about their priorities for future programming. Carol suggested that this survey might be augmented by a letter to the deans reminding them of UACT’s presence and role. The group liked all of these ideas as well, and we will proceed with them.

2. Planning for Next Year: UACT Functioning. Gary led the discussion about how to structure responsibilities for next year and how best to incorporate members’ interests and talents. The group came up with several subcommittees, including the following:

- 1) Master Teacher Program – planning this event
- 2) Speakers/Programming – shaping, suggesting, determining future events/programs
- 3) Evaluation – assessing how UACT is doing, whether we are fulfilling our role, etc.
- 4) Promotion and Tenure – examining the role of teaching in this process; also might include looking at teaching awards – which exist, and what is our role in that process.

With regard to the P&T committee, members agreed it might be a good idea to get Harriet King to come speak to the group about this issue. We will try to set this up for the October meeting. Also, Gary, Kim, and Kirsten agreed that they would work on drafting some brief bylaws and a mission statement over the summer.

3. Role of Wendy Newby. Kim explained that Wendy, the Associate Dean for Inclusive Learning, has expressed an interest in being a more active participant in the group. Additionally, UACT pays 25% of her salary. The group agreed to invite Wendy to be an ex-officio member for the coming academic year. Kim will extend the invitation to Wendy.

4. Greenwald Event. Kirsten reminded the members of the upcoming event featuring guest speaker Anthony Greenwald, and urged them to encourage others within their schools to attend the event as well. The event is a lecture on the uses of student evaluations, to be held 4:00 Friday, April 5th, in White Hall 205.

5. Final Meeting. The final UACT meeting of the semester has traditionally been held over dinner at a local restaurant. The group enthusiastically approved the idea of having this dinner at Le Giverny at 6:00 on Thursday, May 2nd.

Respectfully submitted by Kirsten Rambo.