Minutes

Quality Curriculum Committee

UAB eLearning

Thursday, December 15, 2016
Magnolia Office Park South, Suite 200
8:00-9:00AM

Members Present. Dr. Linda Moneyham (Chair), Dr. Donald Burke, Dr. Elizabeth Fisher, Dr. Maria Hopkins, Dr. Andrew Keitt, Dr. Karen Kennedy, Ms. Samira Laouzai.

Members Absent. Dr. Pam Paustian, Dr. Lou Ann Worthington.

Guest. Dr. Erika Austin proxy for Dr. Stacey Cofield.

Dr. Linda Moneyham called the meeting to order at 8:06AM.

Approve Draft Minutes of August 18, 2016

The Committee reviewed the draft Minutes from August 18th. A motion was made to approve, another to second. The Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

QM Implementation Plan Annual Report 2015-16

Dr. Fisher shared the Quality Matters Annual Report for 2015-16, which is the first year of the QM Implementation Plan at UAB. She noted that Samira Laouzai gathered the data for the annual report and developed the QM website for UAB.

Discussion followed as to whether or not faculty should be incentivized financially for obtaining QM certification. IDEA evaluations have been revised based on faculty input. The Provost’s TOC Awards have a QM requirement for each course application. A suggestion was made to research other options for online course standards such as the Online Learning Consortium and Roblyer. Recommendations made for improving QM going forward include the following: 1) Avoid payment to faculty for QM certification since that would disincentivize the service component of the curriculum vitae. 2) Build the status of reviewers adding weight to the “service” section of faculty CVs. 3) Recognize QM reviewers with a formal letter for their dossier, indicating that the faculty is responsible to review one course per semester. 4) Feature reviewers in the eLPS eNewsletter and on the eLPS website. 5) Create a QM Reviewer of the Year. Actions. 1) No monetary incentives will be made to QM reviewers. 2) Dr. Fisher will create formal letters to faculty who become QM reviewers, going forward, copying the faculty member’s department chair and Dean.

TOCA Update

The 2017 dates have been posted on the eLPS website and the UAB Faculty website: April 1 is the deadline for submission of nominations, and June 1, for applications. In reviewing the “Purpose” description, Dr. Kennedy asked that we clarify use of the word transformative in the title of the award. Dr. Moneyham will write one sentence to add to the website. Post-meeting Update. The
following sentence was added to the “Purpose” section: “Transformative” courses are defined as those which enhance the student experience through the use of innovative teaching strategies, fostering an interactive learning community that maximizes student engagement and outcomes.

Dr. Moneyham reiterated the distinction between full-time and adjunct faculty members applying for this award. TOCA aligns with the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. An award could be developed for adjunct faculty members considering that some schools use more adjuncts. Dr. Burke stated that the School of Engineering does not have a formal process for recognizing adjunct faculty, but an award that is similar to TOCA at the school level would be welcomed. Further, opportunities for sharing top adjunct faculty courses may be developed.

Dr. Kennedy asked that the 2016 TOCA awardees present their winning online courses again during the Spring of 2017.

Dr. Moneyham adjourned the meeting at 9:02AM.

The next meeting of the Quality Curriculum Committee is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2017.