Teaching and Learning Committee Minutes
Minutes
Room 228, School of Business
April 26, 2013

Chairman: Dr. Syed Ahmed
Secretary: Francisco Patiño

Members Present: Susan Hall, Dr. Tony Wohlers, Dr. Syed Ahmed, Stephanie Boss, Rose Welch, Kyle Moore, Amanda Goemmer, Lisa Restivo, Greg Heron (Guest), Dr. Dzyndolet (Guest) and Francisco Patiño.

Absent Members: Margot Gregory, Dr. Carolyn Kinslow, Jeff Larson and Justin Barrick, Margot sent observations via email.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Ahmed. Francisco Patiño took on secretary post full time.

OLD BUSINESS

Francisco Patiño was volunteered to continue acting as secretary, which he accepted. The email with Dr. Dzyndolet’s responses was handed out and reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS

Further discussion of Dr. Dzyndolet’s “Special Needs Babies” was begun.

Research Proposal Special Needs Babies

Discussion: Ms. Welch asked if Real Care had specified which types of drug abuse the Drug–Affected Babies would simulate, since further research on her part had shown that “Crack Babies” was a misapplied term and several types of substance abuse were lumped together under “crack baby”. She also discovered that studies have shown that cocaine abuse did not affect newborns. Dr. Dzyndolet didn’t know which drug abuse type it would simulate, and noted that the babies would also be used to give experience in Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Shaken Baby syndrome, both very valuable hands on experiences for students. In addition to psychology students, the babies would serve the 1/3 of the students in these classes who are nurses. She further explained that she had secured half of the cost of the proposal from her dean because they would serve as a powerful recruiting aid in career fairs. Also, an incoming Developmental Psychology teacher would have a lot of use for them.

Dr. Wohlers explained to Dr. Dzyndolet that the soonest we would be able to fund her proposal would be July 1st of 2014, and asked if the funding she had secured from her Dean would still be available. Dr. Dzyndolet said yes.

Action: Based on Dr. Dzyndolet’s contributions, Dr. Syed called a vote to fund her proposal next year, and the motion passed.

Discussion: Dr. Syed moved the discussion to Prof. Janda's proposal to purchase the Turning Point Response Card System. Dr. Dzyndolet mentioned the clickers used in the psychology department are very popular with students, but each student must have one which can be difficult to afford. Ms. Welch asked how many classes use the clickers, and Dr. Dzyndolet answered that a total of 7 classes. Mr. Moore asked if there is data on students liking the
clickers, and Dr. Dzyndolet mentioned there is an ongoing survey that will conclude at the end of the semester to provide hard rather than anecdotal data. She further mentioned how Dr. Jenel has used the power of clickers as a teaching tool by integrating the response graphs into Powerpoints, using it to quiz students for grades and to get roll. Ms. Welch raised concern from her honors psychology class of the risk that one student not clicking on a question stopping class progress. Dr. Dzyndolet mentioned the problems faced with pairing the devices to individual student profiles.

Dr. Wohlers asked why there were software installation issues, and Mr. Hernon mentioned that an OU audit of our IT services revealed giving professor admin access to computers represented a substantial security risk, which is why IT now vets all software installations. Mr. Hernon further brought up problems with computer wipes removing grading data collected during class, which is why individual laptops had to be used rather than campus ones. Dr. Dzyndolet brought up that the previous system's cost was $4,700 for 160 units, with $300 in yearly running expenses. Ms. Welch asked what IT's opinion was on the matter, since we had discussed in the last meeting that we needed their input. Dr. Wohlers brought up that a unified standard needed to be decided. Ms. Welch concurred, and since we will likely see new proposals for clickers in the future a unified standard or decision would help with those.

**Action:** Dr. Syed mentions the possibility of creating a subcommittee to further analyze the topic along with IT. Lisa Restivo (after speaking on the phone with Margot Gregory) mentions Margot will be willing to serve in this subcommittee. Dr. Dzyndolet asks if non-members may join, and Dr. Wohlers says that they can join as guests to help guide the discussion. Dr. Dzyndolet and Cavazos would be invited, as would representatives from the Math department and IT, as would any other academic department (such as Economics) interested in implementing clickers. Dr. Syed will bring up the topic in the Faculty Senate, to see if the senate wants to create its own subcommittee to set university wide policy on this or leave it to us.

Discussion moved to some technical issues such as the Math department requiring more advanced clickers capable of entering equations, the potential use of smartphone apps, or the use of the blackboard platform for the clickers. Dr. Syed asked Dr. Wohlers if there was anything further to discuss, there wasn’t, and the discussion wrapped up. The next meeting would be held in the next semester.

**Meeting adjourned.**