

AQIP Scholarship Committee

“Enhancing the Campus Climate for Scholarship”

Minutes

October 31, 2007

Present: J. Leonard (chair), M. Freier (recorder), P. Hogan, P. Pless, A. Prus, J. Schiffer, A. Smentkowski, C. Prosen (ex-officio)

Approval of Minutes

With the addition of “annual submission of CVs” as item IV.b. iii.d., the minutes were approved.

Selection of recorder

Recorder duties will cycle alphabetically; therefore, M. Freier will record the minutes for this meeting.

Discussion of subcommittee proposal and member assignment to committees

Outreach (M. Freier, convener, P. Pless, J. Schiffer)

Virtual or face-to-face?

- Wikis, blogs, etc.
- Faculty-taught and -attended seminars
- All-campus dinner (Sigma Xi model)
- All-campus colloquia—problems of people only attending when the featured speaker is from their department

Time is always a factor

- Wednesday afternoons used to be class-free to encourage cross-department discussion, but that really didn't work, and we couldn't keep that time class-free now.
- There are annual all-campus events: the President's Convocation, the Student Scholarship celebration, but there is no presentation of faculty scholarship at the former, and attendance is poor at the latter.

Outreach Subcommittee will meet and create a strategy and plan for

- Integrating and sharing of work being done by students and faculty
- Learning why is there a belief in a split between scholarship and teaching? The two work together, not against each other.
- Creating an inclusive, transparent process to find out what the obstacles are to NMU's having a climate that encourages scholarship.

Participants (A. Prus, convener, J. Ejnik)

- J. Leonard talked to Ray Ventre (Grievance Officer for AAUP) about our ability to gather data about scholarly activities. He said that we can harvest statistics from the annual evaluations, but in order to get detailed information (titles, conferences) we would have to get permission from each faculty member.
- It was agreed that we could gather information in this manner this year (C. Prosen offered the use of a graduate student to go from department to department to get the information), but that the subcommittee would work on developing a survey instrument for future years.

Students (P. Hogan, convener, J. Leonard, A. Smentkowski)

- Working with student groups to learn about student research might be helpful.

Systems (A. Smentkowski, convener, J. Leonard, S. Piziali)

- This group will continue to look for other aspirational peers in terms of scholarship.

Time (J. Leonard, convener, J. Schiffer)

- Is the issue really teaching load?
- How can we learn about how faculty spend their time?

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 5:00-7:00 p.m.