

**FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2006 – 2007**

Membership 2006 – 2007

Mary Ann Foley, Professor of Psychology
Katie Hauser, Associate Professor of Art History
Mark Hofmann, Associate Dean of the Faculty
Kate Leavitt, Chair, Associate Professor of Art
Aldo Vacs, Professor of Government

Membership 2007 – 2008

Barbara Black, Associate Professor of English
Mary Ann Foley, Chair, Professor of Psychology
Mark Hofmann, Associate Dean of the Faculty
Kate Leavitt, Associate Professor of Art
Aldo Vacs, Professor of Government

The FDC met bi-weekly throughout the 2006 – 2007 academic year and weekly as needed. The function of the FDC is to advise the Dean of the Faculty on faculty development policies and initiate ideas for faculty growth and improvement, including programs to support both scholarly and professional activity and the improvement of teaching; to allocate such research funds as the Dean shall designate; to represent the faculty on the award of pre-tenure paid research and sabbatical leaves, and to make recommendations on such leaves to the Dean of the Faculty; and to select the annual Edwin Moseley Faculty Research Lecturer and the Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching; and to assist the student body in selecting a faculty speaker for commencement ceremonies.

The committee welcomed Mark Hofmann as the new representative from the Dean of Faculty office. Mark's commitment to the need for enhanced faculty development and his hard work was greatly appreciated by the committee. Many excellent faculty grant applications were submitted to the committee this year and the entire list of grants awarded is attached to this document.

As stated in the FDC operating code, the chair of the Committee, in cooperation with the committee secretary (a staff member from the DOF office), builds the committee agenda, and convenes the committee for deliberations, and making awards. The committee secretary assures that the faculty receive timely announcements of deadlines and instructions on how to apply. Last year, 2005 – 2006, the committee requested that a staff member attend all meetings and follow through on directives from the committee. The committee wishes to thank both Colleen Kelly and Jill Jones for helping to organize all the relevant material for the committee and for following through on the multitude of actions enacted by the committee. Jill has worked diligently to compile historical information and helped to create a process that streamlines the work of the committee. With the help of Colleen and Jill the committee created an internal committee handbook

of procedures and guidelines to assist the committee in their deliberations. We are looking forward to having Jill Jones as the committee secretary for 2007 – 2008.

The FDC created new guidelines for Faculty/Student Research opening the possibilities for teams from all disciplines across the campus. These new guidelines were, in part, influenced by the open forum conducted by FDC during the 05/06 academic year. This summer 18 students worked with faculty on campus. Six first year students also worked with faculty funded by the FYE's Mellon Grant. Ten grants could not be funded due to limited resources. Enhanced funding for Faculty/Student collaboration is necessary to continue a rich program and will be discussed in the FDC in the upcoming year.

The FDC was asked to review applications for additional sabbatical funding. A Mellon Grant and DOF ad hoc funds provided this funding from the Dean of Faculty Office. Faculty eligible for sabbatical for 2007 – 08 were asked to submit applications including a narrative of intent for the sabbatical and a budget. The committee reviewed these applications. Recommendations were made to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. This review process created a level of transparency as to the total resources available for sabbatical enhancement available through the DOF office. The FDC hopes this practice continues in the future.

The FDC discussed the original Dean's Fellowship Proposal of 2005, a document requesting enhanced sabbatical funding, during an open forum and brought the subject to Academic Staff. FDC created a document urging the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Faculty to find ways to increase sabbatical funding. The goals and action agenda items of the Strategic Plan specifically state that the College will pursue initiatives to rethink distribution of financial resources for increased sabbatical releases. As FDC moves ahead to continue this agenda the new Director of Sponsored Research, Bill Tomlinson, was invited to attend FDC meetings to help shape further funding initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Leavitt, Chair of FDC