FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009

Membership 2008—2009
Roy Ginsberg, Professor of Government
Kate Leavitt, FDC Chair, Associate Professor of Art
William Lewis, Associate Professor of Philosophy & Religion (sabbatical replacement)
Monica Raveret Richter, Associate Professor of Biology
Patricia Rubio, Associate Dean of the Faculty

Membership 2009-2010
Barbara Black, Associate Professor of English
Roy Ginsberg, FDC Co-Chair, Professor of Government
Monica Raveret Richter, FDC-Co-Chair, Associate Professor of Biology
Peter Stake, Associate Professor of Art
Paty Rubio, Associate Dean of Faculty

Summary of Activities, Responsibilities, & Decisions

The FDC met weekly during the fall and spring semesters with few exceptions. The purpose of these meetings included the development of new initiatives in support of faculty development; the evaluation and revision of some FDC practices for reviewing proposals; the review of research proposals; the selection of the annual Edwin Moseley Faculty Research Lecturer and the Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in teaching; assisting the student body in the selection of the faculty speaker for commencement; and reviewing applications for sabbaticals. In addition, Mary Ann Foley represented FDC in conversations with members of CEPP and others regarding the establishment of a new Center for faculty excellence and development and reported regularly to the FDC.

New Initiatives

The functions of the FDC include advising the Dean of the Faculty on faculty development policies and recommending new initiatives in support of faculty development and professional growth. In October the FDC recommended to the Dean of Faculty and the Vice President for Academic Affairs an increase in sustained funding for Faculty/Student Collaborative Research Projects. Muriel Poston joined the committee during initial discussions regarding funding for collaborative research. The number of research teams dropped from 49 in the summer of 2008 to 29 in the summer of 2009 due in part to the conclusion of outside grant funding. The Strategic Action Agenda calls for developing additional resources for student/faculty collaborative research and the FDC recommended that this be a budget priority.

Changes in Guidelines & Practices

FDC introduced some minor changes in our guidelines and practices that will help facilitate the process of reviewing and awarding grants. Updated applications and guidelines will be available on-line at the beginning of the fall 2009 semester.

FEC's Charge to Examine Faculty Involvement

At FEC's request, FDC discussed faculty representation on the committee. Members of FDC were in agreement that the four faculty seats on FDC were indeed of great importance, and that the committee does not recommend lowering the number of faculty on FDC. The distribution of the four faculty members with tenure, one each from the areas of the humanities, the natural sciences, the pre-professional programs, and the social sciences are necessary to review applications that are submitted from all academic areas of the college. FDC discussed in length the committee's responsibilities at the request of FEC to see if we could determine any work not deemed critical to faculty development. FDC discussed the annual review of sabbatical proposals. As a recommending body to the Dean of Faculty the process of reviewing applications for sabbatical has provided transparency. The committee decided to continue this process due to the fact that the committee has continued to request that the administration commit to enhanced sabbatical funding as a budgetary priority. The application review helps to guide the committee for future rationale for new initiatives for funding.

Expressions of Appreciation

FDC invited Bill Tomlinson, our Sponsored Research Officer, to join in discussions of FDC grant proposals. Bill's contributions to these discussions have been very helpful to the committee. Bill will continue to join the FDC meetings when reviewing faculty grant proposals.

FDC would also like to thank Mark Hofmann who has volunteered to coordinate the Summer Faculty/Student Research Program. Mark reviewed the applications and joined the committee during discussions but did not take part in the final selection. Mark is responsible for planning the schedule of events for the students and faculty during the 10-week summer program.

Associate Dean Paty Rubio joined FDC as the representative of the Dean of Faculty Office. Paty's insight and commitment to faculty development was greatly appreciated by the members of the committee.

Once again the committee extends true appreciation for the vast amount of work that Jill Jones and Sue Blair attend to for the Faculty Development Committee.

Respectively submitted, Kate Leavitt, Chair of FDC

Faculty Development Grant Recipients Fall 2008

Paul Arciero, Associate Professor, Exercise Science

Seniors Cybercycling with a Virtual Team: Effects on Plasma Hormones and Other Biomarkers

Joerg Bibow, Assistant Professor, Economics

Keynes as an Investor

Carlton Campbell, Visiting Assistant Professor, Chemistry

Preparation of Antioxidant Vitamin E Analogs with Potential Pharmaceutical Application

Mao Chen, Associate Professor, Foreign Languages & Literatures

Bing Xin in the Legacy of May Fourth: Nationhood and Women's Writing

Catherine Golden, Professor, English

The Victorian Revolution in Letter Writing

Barbara Gulan, Lecturer, Theatre

The Actors Center Teaching Development Program, Acting Intensive Workshop

Echo Leaver, Visiting Assistant Professor, Psychology

Effect of Lifestyle on Cognition in Aging

Tillman Nechtman, Assistant Professor, History

Monograph: Nabobs: Identity and Empire in 18th Century Britain

Mary-Beth O'Brien, Professor, Foreign Languages & Literatures

National History and Political Idealism in Post-Wall German Cinema

Gregory Pfitzer, Professor, American Studies

Monosyllabic History: The Debate Over How Children Read and Learn History

Bernard Possidente, Professor, Biology

Biochemical Analysis of Brain Function in DISC1 Mutant Mouse Model for Schizophrenia

Linda Simon, Professor, English

Theodora Bosanguet and Her Circle

Timothy Stablein, Lecturer, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work

Ethnographic Research on Homeless & Non-Homeless Street Youth & Young Adult Populations

David Wildermuth, Lecturer, Foreign Languages & Literatures

The Wehrmacht's 35th Infantry Division in the War of Annihilation: A Case Study

Faculty Development Grant Recipients Spring 2009

Faculty Research Initiative Grants

Rubén Graciani, Assistant Professor, Dance

Travel to Represent – Centre National de Danse – Paris and Symphony Space – NY Present: Company Stefanie Batten Bland May 2009

Marla Segol, Assistant Professor, Philosophy & Religion

Word and Image in Medieval Kabbalah

Shirley Smith, Associate Professor, Foreign Languages & Literatures

Women's Travel Journals in China: Gendered Hybridity

Faculty Development Grants

Lisa Aronson, Associate Professor, Art History

Landscape as Metaphor in Contemporary Nigerian Art

Diana Barnes, Visiting Assistant Professor, Foreign Languages & Literatures

Research for book in Mexico

Alma Becker, Senior Artist-in-Residence, Theater

Developing Script, Music and Choreography for Pillows and Sheets

Will Bond, Artist-in-Residence, Theater

Suzuki Method of Actor Training Symposium

Donna Brent, Visiting Assistant Professor, Education Studies

Using Narratives to Assess Psychological Development

Regis Brodie, Professor, Art

Pueblo Pottery Making: Construction and Firing Methods Both Old and New

Daniel Curley, Associate Professor, Classics

Reading and Writing Rome: Logistical Study for a Short-Term Travel Seminar

Jennifer Delton, Associate Professor, History

Racial Transformation at Boystown, USA

Giuseppe Faustini, Professor, Foreign Languages & Literatures

Lectura Dantis: Paradiso XIII

Kristie Ford, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Anthropolgy & Social Work

The Invisibility of Whiteness: A Comparative Assessment of the Educational Benefits of Interracial and Intra-Racial Curricular Dialogues on White Racial Identity Development

Benjamin Given, Assistant Professor, Music

A Book Entitled "The Music of Django Reinhardt"

Catherine Golden, Professor, English

Posting It: The Victorian Revolution in Letter Writing

Kate Greenspan, Associate Professor, English

The Golden Litany of the Holy Mawdlen: The Transformations of a Text from Medieval to Modern, German to English, Catholic to Anglican

Matthew Hockenos, Associate Professor, History

Converting Jews in the Third Reich: The Berlin Jewish Mission, 1930-1950

Anthony Holland, Associate Professor, Music

Potential Affects of Frequency-Specific Pulsed Electromagnetic Fields (PEMF) on Human Cancer Cells; Collaborative Research and Experimentation at the Thomas Jefferson University Medical College (Philadelphia, PA)

Masako Inamoto, Visiting Instructor, Foreign Languages & Literatures

From "Ghost" to "Dr. Manbo": The Fiction and Essays of Kita Morio

Kathleen Leavitt, Associate Professor, Art

Framing for Exhibition at the Southern Vermont Arts Center

Elzbieta Lepkowska-White, Associate Professor, Management & Business

Attitudes Toward Smoking Among Young Consumers in Poland and the US: Can They be Changed

Hassan Lopéz, Assistant Professor, Psychology

The Effect of Juvenile Cannabiniod Exposure on Female Sexual Motivation and Estrous Cyclicity

Doretta Miller, Professor, Art

"Town and Gown" Paintings: Works on Paper, and Works on Canvas

Daniel Nathan, Associate Professor, American Studies

History, Heritage and Re-Imagining Baltimore's Sporting Past

John Nazarenko, Senior Artist-in-Residence, Music

Follow-up CD to "John Nazarenko Trio, with Eric Harland & Reuben Rogers"

Victoria Palermo, Visiting Assistant Professor, Art

To Design a Structure That Will Function as a Bus Shelter

Monica Raveret-Richter, Associate Professor, Biology

Wildbranch Writing Workshop

Timothy Stablein, Lecturer, Sociology, Anthropology & Social Work

Trans-local Music Based Subculture Involvement: Peer Group Participation Among Followers of Touring Music Acts

Mary Stange, Professor, Philosophy and Religion

Women's Activism in the African Lutheran Churches

Marc-Andre Wiesmann, Associate Professor, Foreign Languages & Literatures

Inquiry into the Emblematic Construct "Dead Tree/Live Plant," in Sixteenth and Seventeeth Centuries European Emblem Book

Summer Faculty/Student Research

Paul Arciero, Associate Professor, Exercise Science

Naoko Okuma '10

Project: Seniors Cyber-Cycling with a Virtual Team: Effects on Exercise Behavior, Neuropsychological Function and Physiological Outcomes

Catherine Berheide, Professor, Sociology, Anthropology & Social Work

Joelle Sklaar '11

Tara Kelley '10

Project: The Climate for Women Faculty in STEM at Skidmore and Union Colleges

Jennifer Bonner, Assistant Professor, Biology

Michael Letko '11

Alexandria Cooper '10

Project: Analysis of Genes Required for Spinal Cord Development

Beau Breslin, Associate Professor, Government

Matthew Rothenberg '12

Project: Echos of the Founding: Examining America's Constitutional Birth

Tonya Dodge, Assistant Professor, Psychology

Carly Goldstein '10

Project: Legal and Illegal Performance Enhancing Substances and Adolescent Males in the Sporting Context

David Domozych, Professor, Biology Dawn Harfmann '10

Project: Optimizing Lignin-Degrading Specificity of Selected Basidiomycete Fungal Species

Michael Eckmann, Assistant Professor, Math & Computer Science Mihaela David '10

Project: Content-Based Image Retrieval

Rubén Graciani, Assistant Professor, Dance

Elissa Nadworny '10

Emily Sferra '09

Project: Dance on Video and Video Dance, Summer 2009 - "From the Outside In"

Katherine Graney, Associate Professor, Government Katherine Morton '09

Project: Re-Orienting Europe: Legacies of Orientalism and the Future of Europeanisation in the Post-Soviet World

Rebecca Johnson, Assistant Professor, Psychology Chelsie Cushman '09

Project: Exploring the Parafoveal Preview Benefit as a Function of Word Length

James Kennelly, Associate Professor, Management & Business Trevor Mengel '11

Project: Royal Dutch Shell in Ireland: The Great Corrib Gas Controversy

Echo Leaver, Visiting Assistant Professor, Psychology Alexandra Wennberg '10

Project: The Effect of Lifestyle on Cognition in Aging

Sylvia McDevitt, Assistant Professor, Biology Corrina Stoddart '10

Project: Cloning of Genes Possibly Involved in Copper and Silver Resistance in Cupriavidus metallidurans CH34

Sylvia McDevitt, Assistant Professor, Biology Sonate Gandonu '10

Project: Deletion of Copper and Silver Resistance Genes in Cupriavidus metallidurans CH 34

Rajesh Nagarajan, Assistant Professor, Chemistry Huazhen Chen '11

Project: Biochemical Assay for P. aeruginosa Lasl AHL Synthase

Thomas O'Connell, Associate Professor, Math & Computer Science Ari Morse '09

Project: Computational Evolution of Thought

Mehmet Odekon, Professor, Economics

Xanthe Burton '10

Evan Warshaw '10

Project: Political Economy of Global Food System

Bernard Possidente, Professor, Biology

Molly Kidder '10

Project: Does Genetic Rescue of Alzheimer's Normalize Biological Clock Function in Drosophila

Pushkala Prasad, Professor, Management & Business Kelly Baker '10

Project: Surviving Public Outrage and Disapproval: Legitimation Strategies of Big Tobacco and the Gun Industry

Thomas H. Reynolds, Assistant Professor, Exercise Science

Maria DiSanto-Rose '11

Erin Merrell '10

Project: Effects of Aging and Isoform Specific PKB Activity on Skeletal Muscle Proteolysis and Muscle Mass

Robert Turner, Associate Professor, Government

Nick Hara '11

Project: The Politics of Sprawl in Reno, Nevada

Rachel Roe-Dale, Assistant Professor, Math & Computer Science

Emese Lipcsey-Magyar '10

Project: Modeling Time Dependent Electroosmotic Flow

Sue VanHook, Senior Teaching Associate, Biology

Gordon MacPherson '12

Project: Synthesis of Fungal Fabrics to Replace Expanded Polystyrene Foams

Schupf Scholar Program

Thomas H. Reynolds, Assistant Professor, Exercise Science Megan Gaugler '12

Project: The Effects of Type 2 Diabetes on PKB Signaling to Muscle Atrophy Related Bio-Markers

David Domozych, Professor, Biology Korena Burgio '11

Project: Pectin Dynamics in the New Biological Tool Organism, Penium margaritaceum

Catherine Gibson, Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies Evan Caster '11

Project: Linking Nitrogen and Phosphorus Uptake Through Organic Matter Stoichiometery in a Headwater Stream

Mary Odekon, Associate Professor, Physics James Turner '11

Project: Gas and Dark Matter in Galaxies: A Dynamical Perspective

Scribner-Mellon Scholar Projects

Sarah Goodwin, Professor, English Stephen Bissonnette '12

Project: Researching and Planning an Intergroup Dialogue on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities

Aiwu Zhao, Visiting Instructor, Management & Business Alexander Brehm '12

Project: The Impacts of Cumulative Voting on the Approval of Shareholder-Initiated Proposals

Faculty Research Initiative Grants

Ruben Graciani, Assistant Professor, Dance

Centre National de Danse – Paris Symphony Space, Performance with Company Stefanie Batten Bland

Marla Segol, Assistant Profesor, Philosophy & Religion

Word and Image in Medieval Kabbalah

Shirley Smith, Associate Professor, Foreign Languages & Literature

Women's Travel Journals in China: Gendered Hybridity

Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Lectureship

Reg Lilly, Professor, Philosophy & Religion

The Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching

Mary Lynn, Douglas Family Professor of American Culture, American Studies