CDes FCC Meeting Summaries:

Joint FCC/AFCC Meeting - March 12, 2013:

This joint meeting between the adjunct faculty consultative committee and the faculty consultative committee discussed 3 items.

The first item was “Adjunct Faculty Hiring, Review, and Advancement”. We were joined by Jan Batt and talked about the inconsistency in hiring methods, annual reviews, and advancement among the CDes Departments. We agreed that consistent and transparent processes should be in place among the departments to ensure all adjunct faculty are treated similarly. These processes need to be clarified by each department. It was discussed that we should dedicate a working session to “straighten” out the differences and make some recommendations. Jan was asked to contact the departments and report back on their progress toward clarifying these processes.

The second item was “Revisit Written Comments on Course Evaluations by Students”. We revisited some of the previous meeting’s discussion points on who the comments belong to, how are they going to be used in evaluating teaching performance, and who gets to see the comments. We came to a recommendation on this issue:

The comments belong to the instructor. It is a tool to be used in improving their teaching performance. They should stay with the instructor and can be shared during an annual review, but should not be transcribed, nor sent directly to the Department head (or other supervisor).

The third item discussed was “CDES Support Staff Structural Changes”. We discussed the informal proposal(s) to reorganize the administrative staff of each department. The idea of a McNeal pool and a Rapson Pool were evaluated. The group agreed that some simple tasks could easily be shared among departments, but much of the detailed tasks of administration are unique to each department and much would be lost if departmental administrators are “shared”. We had several questions/statements, but no recommendations:

What is the problem this answer is solving?
What are our admin ratios vs. other parts of the U?
We agree that there may be advantages to sharing some low level tasks, but not at the loss of departmental identity.

FCC Meeting - April 23, 2013:

This meeting of the faculty consultative committee discussed 1 item.

The item was “Proposed Revisions to the CDes Constitution and Bylaws”. We were given an edited version of the constitution and bylaws that proposed several revisions. We went through about 30% of the proposed revisions, and all agreed that more work needs to be done. Among the points of discussion were proposed elimination of the student assembly, the role of the curriculum committee, the role of the Center Policy and Advisory Committee, and term limits for College and Department administrators. No recommendations were made, but we agreed to look at this again at our next meeting.