A Meeting of the Task Force on Teaching Excellence

Oct. 2, 2018, 3:30 p.m. 213 Chavis UC University of North Carolina, Pembroke

Members Present: Cherry Beasley, Charles Beem, Terence Dollard, Scott Hicks, Eun Hee Jeon, Shenika Jones, Zhixin (Richard) Kang, Siva Mandjiny, Carla Rokes, and Joe Sciulli

Members Absent: Kirill Bumin

Guests: Beth Holder

- I. Call to Order
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.
- II. Approval of Minutes and Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. By acclamation, the minutes of the March 20, 2018, meeting were approved and the agenda was adopted.
- III. Reports
 - a. Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Success and Dean of the University College—Beth Holder
 - i. Dean Holder presented the goals of the University College to establish and brand a robust University College aligned to the mission, vision and priorities of the University; to implement an effective assessment plan to measure the efficacy of the UC including its constituent units, goals, initiatives, student retention, and student satisfaction; to provide accountable and fiscally responsible leadership to the Accessibility Resource Center, the Center for Student Success, Teaching & Learning Center, University College faculty, and University Writing Center; to serve as academic advisers to all first-year and at-risk sophomore students; to communicate effectively with various stakeholders; and to implement a recognition program for students who excel during their first-year and for the faculty and staff who support these students. She also reviewed the results of a transition survey of 469 first-year students, finding that about 85 percent believe they made the right decision in choosing UNCP and plan to graduate from UNCP and identifying about 90 students for further intervention due to self-disclosures of anxiety. Finally, she presented a midterm grade communication and intervention plan that CSS staff will implement beginning mid-October for the purpose of assisting students toward continued success and persistence. Task Force members discussed (1) the importance of diversity in efforts to increase overall fulltime, first-time retention and (2) the future of high-impact living and learning communities at UNCP.
 - b. Teaching & Learning Center Director—Scott Hicks (Appendix B)

i. Director Hicks presented the TLC's support unit assessment report submitted to associate vice chancellor Elizabeth Normandy in July and highlighted the TLC's efforts in expanding its student staff; publicizing its resources to faculty; providing professional development in accessibility and inclusion; conducting midsemester class-check-ins; facilitating peer-to-peer collaboration through open classrooms, shared interest groups, and learning circles; and preparing for future initiatives, such as planning for the TLC's relocation to West Hall and the utilization of active learning spaces.

IV. New Business

- a. Review of Financial Resources—Academic Resources Director Leslie Bell of Academic Affairs (in absentia)
 - i. Fund No. 101490 (Faculty Development Center Operating Budget)
 - 1. Beginning Balance: \$7,000
 - 2. Expenditures: \$2,180 (approximate)
 - 3. Available Balance: \$4,820 (approximate)
 - ii. Fund No. 152100 (Faculty Development)
 - 1. Beginning Balance: \$20,000
 - 2. Expenditures: \$8,729 (approximate)
 - 3. Available Balance: \$11,721 (approximate)
 - iii. Fund No. 252120: No information available
- b. Review and Recommendation of Proposals for Grants for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (Appendix D)
 - i. The Task Force approved funding of Grants for Excellence in Teaching & Learning for Jane Haladay (\$2,000) and Naomi Lifschitz-Grant *et al.* (\$2,743.82), 10-0-0; a recommendation to Irina Falls to revise and resubmit her proposal by March 1 pending its approval by the Institutional Review Board and consultation with the Division of Information Technology, 10-0-0; funding of a Syllabus Transformation Grant for Dennis Edgell (\$250), in partnership with the Office of Online Learning (\$100), 10-0-0.

V. Old Business

a. There was no old business.

VI. For the Good of the Order

- a. Members emphasized the urgency of increasing faculty awareness and submission of Grants for Excellence in Teaching & Learning, and the TLC will post flyers, develop videos for presentation at Braves Kickoff and Faculty Awards Dinner, hosting webinars, and offering grantwriting information sessions and workshops facilitated by previous winners.
- b. Members stated their expectation that faculty who apply for grants to fund travel to professional conferences will establish a clear link between travel and classroom impact.

VII. Adjournment

a. The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Scott Hicks, Director