

Service Learning Committee

Friday, September 21, 2001 Meeting Minutes

Present: Betty Carmack, Kara Daillak, John Koeplin, S.J., Miguel Lopez, Jack McLean, Tom Nazario, Maureen O'Sullivan, David Robinson, S.J., Jennifer Turpin.

The meeting, postponed from September 11th because of the terrorist tragedies of that day, was called to order at 12:10 p.m. The minutes of the May 1, 2001 meeting were approved as printed and distributed.

The following resources were distributed to the Committee: Service Learning Committee (SLC) Annual Report, USF Magazine service learning article, Summary History of USF SLC, SLC Priorities for 2001-2002, SLC Proposed By-laws, Tentative SLC Roster and an article by Sam Marullo & Bob Edwards entitled "From Charity To Justice - The Potential Of University-Community Collaboration For Social Change."

Jennifer Turpin gave an update on the revision of the General Education Curriculum. She was recently named co-chair of the JUGEC and expects that the service-learning requirement will remain in any final proposal.

Kara Daillak gave an update on the Service Learning Course Master List. In updating the list, she has used the following informal criteria:

A service-learning course must:

- 1) include some amount of service to the community or in the public interest (including public agencies and political offices);
- 2) include academic lectures, seminars, discussions and/or readings somehow related to the service performed; and,
- 3) require students to reflect critically on the connections between the service and the academic components of the course.

The Office of Community Service and Service Learning (CSSL) staff, as directed by the SLC Executive Council, will continue updating the Master List using these criteria. Further, CSSL will attempt to have courses from its Master Service Learning Course list designated as Service-Learning Courses in the Spring 2002 list of classes.

Jack McLean, at the request of the SLC Executive Council, met with Dr. Jim Wiser, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, to discuss establishing formal criteria for identifying service learning courses. Dr. Wiser asked the SLC to propose formal criteria. After discussion, the SLC formally adopted the criteria mentioned above as its recommendation for formal criteria for identifying service-learning courses.

Jack McLean reported that Dr. Wiser had expressed some concern regarding the proposed functional definition for service learning. He wondered if the previous definition did not more clearly delineate what service learning was. After reviewing the criteria adopted above, Dr. Wiser will meet with Jack McLean, Kara Daillak, and Fr. David Robinson, S.J. (chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on revising the definition) to further discuss the service learning definition.

Kara Daillak circulated working drafts of (1) a service-learning packet for faculty, (2) Generic Release crafted by the General Counsel's Office and (3) a Liability and Risk Management Check List. Some concern was expressed regarding language in the Generic Release. All documents were referred to the Faculty Resource and Development Sub-committee for review and recommendation.

The Committee discussed configuration of Sub-committees for the coming year. After discussion, the Committee voted to establish the following Sub-Committees: (1) Assessment Tools, (2) Faculty Resource and Development, (3) General Education Curriculum, (4) Service Learning Institute, (5) Service Recognition, and (6) Web Site & Publicity. The Committee priorities identified by the Executive Council will be assigned to the appropriate Sub-committee for further consideration. All SLC members are encouraged to signup for a Sub-committee.

The SLC elected Jack McLean as Chair for the coming year.

The Office of Community Service and Service Learning staff solicited names of faculty, staff and students to be interviewed for the service learning video. Taping for the video will begin soon.

The SLC was reminded of the California Campus Compact Regional Faculty Institute scheduled for October 10 at SFSU. Fr. David Robinson, S.J. announced that CPS was covering the cost of any faculty planning on attending.

Kara Daillak gave a brief update on plans for October Outreach. Plans are being revised to address the Terrorist Tragedies of September 11th.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.