

# UMR Retention Committee Meeting

## MINUTES

FEB. 9, 2006

8:15 AM

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Harvest Collier
<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Dana Barnard, Carl Burns, Harvest Collier, Stephanie Fitch, Jay Goff, Matt Goodwin, Marcus Huggans, Mary Ellen Kirgan, Gearoid MacSithigh, Emily Petersen, Tammy Pratt, Kristi Schulte, Jennie Bayless (for Lynn Stichnote), Laura Stoll, Bob Whites
<b>MEMBERS NOT PRESENT</b>	Ron Bieniek, Meg Brady, Gregory Gelles, Amy Gillman, F. Scott Miller, Stephen Raper, Steve Watkins
<b>GUESTS</b>	Marcie Thomas

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the 1-26-06 meeting, with the addition of one statement under Agenda Item II.

## Agenda Items

### I. Follow Up on Teaching Evaluation Scores for GTAs

Marcie Thomas and Laura Stoll are working together to develop a data report indicating UMR GTAs with teaching responsibilities. A complete report will be provided at a future meeting.

The Retention Committee has concurred, based on the CET information supplied by Larry Gragg, that further inquiry into identifying the graduate student population is unnecessary at this time. The GTA CET scores are only slightly lower than the faculty CET scores. However, the Committee does recommend developing a process from which this committee could obtain the yearly cumulative CET scores filtered by job type (GTA vs faculty), class size and department. This will enable the Committee to identify trends and monitor teaching effectiveness.

Dr. Collier summarized the initial meeting with the Deans Teaching Scholars on faculty CET scores. Faculty preparedness and mentoring were important discussion points during the meeting. A suggestion was made to consider discovering the nature of the mentoring activity that is occurring on campus to see if the theme is a "best practice".

Jay Goff suggested that 10 year CET data may provide opportunity to see longitudinal data of changes in faculty/student quality, good things that have happened, etc. Marcie will initiate information request with Larry Gragg.

## **II. Draft Strategic Plan (Initiative 4, Objective 4.2)**

Dr. Collier initiated a discussion on learning communities relative to Strategic Plan Initiative 4, Objective 4.2.

Questions and discussion included:

- Prestige of the tag on groups as “learning communities”.
- What elements characterize “learning communities”?
- What groups are already “learning communities”?
- How can you measure the impact of “learning communities”?
- What objectives would groups have to meet in order to have "learning community" status?
- How to best present the “learning community” resource to students so they would own it.

The meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 23, 2006, 8:15 AM**