FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 26, 2007   Time: 1:00 PM   Place: Leigh Library Multimedia Room

The meeting convened at 1:00 PM.

In attendance: Deborah Albritton, committee chair
               Al Bennett, Kim Coale, Buddy Combs, and Loletta Redmon

New committee members, Al Bennett and Buddy Combs were welcomed. The purpose of the committee was reviewed, and a discussion was held pertaining to the use of a theme for the 2007-2008 Professional Development sessions. The idea of updating the faculty to better serve today’s students is the theme chosen, but we were unable to come up with a catchy sounding slogan. Mr. Bennett suggested something to do with becoming current. We agreed to keep thinking of some way to express the theme for this year.

Plans for sessions to be held Fall Term were discussed and details finalized for most of them. Sue Chapman and Deborah Albritton will conduct a 2 part workshop using information taken from the Critical Thinking Conference they attended in June in Michigan. The October session, Part 1, would be an introduction to updating Teaching Strategies For Today’s Classroom, and Part 2, held in November, would be a Brown Bag Exchange of Classroom Activities relating to these strategies. We would emphasize that these would be relevant to all areas of teaching, including technical, as they relate to the diverse student population of today’s colleges. Those interested in attending could attend either one or both of these sessions. Dates, time, and places were set for these two workshops, with the understanding that there is no time possible which could accommodate every one who would like to attend. The October session will be held October 23 in the Brewton Library Multimedia room from 1:30-2:30 PM and will be repeated in the Atmore IT classroom on Oct. 24 from 1:30-2:30 PM. Due to the interactive nature of the workshop it will not be conducted via telecom. Plans were made to hold the November session on November 19 at 11:00 AM, possibly in the ATN Lobby if it can be reserved. The November session will be an informal exchange of ideas in a “Brown Bag” setting, with dessert being provided.

A possible December session held on either the 10th or 11th was discussed. Mr. Anthony Hardy is trying to schedule a Podcast demonstration with guest presenters who are leaders in this field. Details will be worked out in the near future.

Tentative plans for Spring Term sessions were discussed. It was proposed that we ask Mr. Hardy to present a session explaining and demonstrating newer technological devices, especially those popular for student use, so we could all understand them, and the students who use them, better. Possible date for presentation would be February. Mr. Jeffrey Faust has requested that he be allowed to do a presentation on how to comply with copyright laws for Online Classes, and presentations such as Power point, etc. This will probably be scheduled in April. We agreed to keep March plans open to see if they could be correlated with QEP plans.

Plans were made to schedule the next committee meeting for the week of Jan.21-25, with the date and time to be determined later.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:37 AM