Minutes  
College of Design Faculty Assembly  
Friday, February 25, 2011

Present:
Architectural: Lee Anderson, Renee Cheng, John Comazzi, Jim Lutz, Tom Fisher, Julia Robinson, Ozayr Saloojee, Mark Swackhamer  
Apparel Design: Missy Bye, Lucy Dunne, Karen LaBat  
Graphic Design: Sue Chu, Daniel Jasper, Brad Hokanson, Barbara Martinson, Steven McCarthy, Carol Waldron  
Housing: Bill Angell, Becky Yust, Ann Ziebarth  
Interior Design: Stephanie Zollinger  
Landscape Architecture: Brad Agee, John Koepke, David Pitt  
Retail Merchandising: Kim Johnson, Hye-Young Kim  
Research & Outreach: Lin Nelson Mayson

Regrets: Denise Guerin, Tasoulla Hadjiyanni, Lyn Bruin, Jeff Crump  
On Leave: Marilyn DeLong, Kate Solomonson, James Boyd Brent, Caren Martin

Staff: Kathy Witherow

I. Call to Order: Barbara Martinson called the meeting to order at 9:08

II. Approval of 12/16/2010 Minutes: Motion by Nelson-Mayson, second by Ziebarth to approve minutes. Motion passed

III. Brief Report from Senators: Ann Ziebarth reported on a special meeting of the Faculty Senate held 2/24/11. Another meeting is scheduled for March 2, to include President Bruininks State of the University report. Three items voted on at the 2/24 meeting:  
- Ed Policy recommended an addition to the syllabus requirement regarding academic freedom. URL currently being developed.  
- Faculty Senate voted and approved Twin Cities standardized class time. Faculty are asked to work with their departments to ensure adherence to the standardized class times.  
- Minor changes to the tenure code were approved. Most were clarification of policies around stopping the clock.

IV. Brief Report from Standing Committees and Dean's Working Groups:

Centers Policy & Advisory: John Koepke reported that the annual process is underway. Reports will be reviewed by the committee in March; report to Deans and Assembly will occur in May.
Curriculum: No report

Diversity: No report

Faculty Leave: No report

Adjunct Faculty Consultative Committee: The eight members of the AFCC have met regularly over this past year. Last spring we completed a survey of the adjunct faculty in the college with almost half the adjunct faculty responding. The survey was conducted in order to get a better understanding of the expertise, interests, and needs of the adjunct faculty as they relate to teaching and work in the College. In response to that survey we set in motion efforts that we think will enhance our teaching and benefit our students and the work of the College. In summary the committee:
1. Worked with the Center for Teaching and Learning which prepared a set of slide shows called “tapas” designed to provide adjuncts with knowledge and resources to support and improve their teaching. The four initial tapas were distributed to adjunct faculty before last fall semester. We will follow up and review feedback from initial users of the tapas and work with CTL to refine and add to the tapas offerings.
2. Distributed to adjuncts a list of adjunct faculty interested and available for cross disciplinary reviews.
3. Began work to draft a performance review form for adjunct faculty and part-time instructional P&A that will be offered to departments for their review or use to begin more regular performance reviews of adjunct faculty.
4. Began work with Theresa Tichich to identify and create a more interactive way to increase the visibility and accomplishments of adjunct faculty on the CDes website.
5. Began work to leverage existing social and professional media to connect, share expertise and otherwise enhance the interdisciplinary nature of design teaching.

Faculty Consultative Committee: Julia Robinson reported that the FCC met to discuss the results of the spring 2010 Pulse Survey. The FCC presented a motion, discussed under “new business.”

Academic Technology: Hye Young Kim presented information regarding a desktop virtualization project (see attached) and asked for faculty participation.

Exhibitions: Lin Nelson-Mayson reported that the committee is meeting March 4 to review exhibition proposals for next year and beyond. They are also looking at objects coming into the collection and revising policies. Faculty are invited to attend the April 7 premier of Smart House, the Movie.

Lectures: No Report

IV. Report from the Deans: Tom Fisher, Kate Maple, Lee Anderson and Brad Hokanson presented information via PowerPoint, posted on the governance site.
V. **Old Business:** None

VI. **New Business:**

Spring 2010 Pulse Survey results. FCC presented a motion to address the most recent findings:

Given that the Pulse Survey has identified a number of problems within the college, and that several of these problems persist since the last Pulse Survey, the Faculty Assembly should take the following action:

1. Bring an outside, independent consultant into the College who will collect anonymous information from faculty and report this information back to the faculty assembly.
2. Ask the outside consultant to identify strategies for improvement in the following areas:
3. Based on the findings and recommendations of the outside consultant, that the College of design develop its own strategic plan, incorporating both the strategic plans from individual units within the college and strategies for actively and systematically addressing the weaknesses in the College from the 2010 Pulse Survey

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28.

Minutes submitted 3/1/11
Kathy Witherow
Summary
The College of Design is beginning a three year project to replace all classroom computers with “virtual” computers. A virtual computer (desktop) is the same as a standard desktop except that it doesn’t exist as a physical computer on a desk. Instead, many virtual computers run simultaneously, each with a separate “user,” on a single server. Many servers can be grouped to provide a large number of virtual desktops. Interaction with a virtual computer is flexible: you can use another physical computer (like a laptop), a terminal (dedicated display, keyboard, and mouse), a tablet device (e.g. iPad), or even a smartphone.

In the first phase (year one) of the project, IT staff, faculty, and students will work together to determine the viability of this new service. Only after this first phase is completed successfully will the project move on to development, testing, and implementation.

Why Virtual Deskops?
With a successful desktop virtualization service faculty and students would see many benefits.
● It would no longer be necessary to reserve a specific classroom to teach a class using computers.
● Students would be able to spend more of their productive time in studio instead of having to leave to use a computer lab.
● Savings from not having to replace physical computers could be reinvested to substantially improve our studios and classrooms, license more software, etc.
● E-learning initiatives for the college would also benefit substantially as students taking a course at a distance could have access to the same tools as students physically on campus.
● Adjunct faculty would have anytime, anywhere access to college licensed software.

Why Now?
College computer labs and classrooms are not scheduled for upgrade for another two years so we have that time until a decision needs to be made. Money being set aside to cover replacement costs could be re-invested in other things in support of this project such as studio upgrades, software, etc.

Another reason to start now is that central OIT is just beginning a $2 million project to develop a centralized virtual desktop service that would be paid for out of the cost pool. This is critical because the success of this project, at least in terms of cost savings, will depend on the successful development of a centralized virtual desktop service that meets our needs. Getting in on the ground floor of this project as collaborators is our best chance to make sure OIT builds what our college needs.

What can you do?
The first year of the project will be dedicated to determining the feasibility of virtual desktops for our needs. We will need faculty and student participation at every level including project team, experimentation, testing, and so on. CDes IT staff would be happy to come to a departmental meeting to discuss the project in more detail.

If this is something that interests you please volunteer to be a part of the project. Contact CDesHelp@umn.edu with any questions you might have or to inquire about getting involved in the project.