MEMO
TO: UM-Flint Governing Faculty
FROM: Becky Rodda, PT, DPT, OCS, Chair of University Outreach and Engagement Faculty Standing Committee
DATE: April 24, 2015
CC: Erica Britt, Matt Wyneken, Janet Haley, Seyed Mehdrian, Jacob Blumner, ex-officio, Tracy Wacker ex-officio

Please accept this Annual Report on behalf of the UM-Flint’s University Outreach and Engagement Faculty Standing Committee for the academic year of 2014-2015. The Committee met monthly throughout 2014-2015 with the exception of March 2015.

In September 2014, Interim Director, Jacob Blumner, gave the committee an overview of outreach programming. The following programs were discussed and reviewed:

- Courses with Civic Engagement Course Indicators
- Neff Center
- Place-Based Education
- Innovation Incubator
- Co-curricular programming
- Land, Water, People
- Value Added Civic Engagement Leadership Camp

The overview was provided for new members in the committee and to bring everyone up to speed on the work of the Outreach Committee.

In October the committee reviewed and edited the survey questions that were sent out to faculty who taught Civic Engagement Courses at the end of the winter semester.

In November, the committee discussed several outreach initiatives including the Neff Center’s need for student tutors and ways to encourage tangible projects for the Neff Center. Also under discussion was the Commitment to Service (CTS) and its lack of growth. The CTS has some challenges for growth, one of which is technology. Gary Ashley is forming a student board to assist with this challenge.

December meeting was cancelled due to finals.

January meeting found new faculty and a loss of the administrative assistant, Barb Urlaub to retirement. Changing advisory board members included the loss of Keith Moreland and Elizabeth Collardey because of other commitments within the University and the addition of new members: Matt Wyneken and Seyed Mehdian.

In February, the committee met for an update and a discussion of the scholarships that are administered by the Outreach committee. A lengthy dialogue on courses with CE indicators, and how to help address barriers that prevent faculty from completing the end-of-semester survey, how to efficiently report back, timing of asking for feedback, etc. Also, how could the survey moment be more accessible/less daunting for the faculty? Ideas of multiple ways to respond could be offered: phone call, email survey, face to face appointment. Evidence of this
conversation making concrete developments can be seen as this menu of response options was presented in the official CECI Winter Course surveys emailed to CE faculty in late April.

There was no meeting in March 2015, the final meeting was in April 2015 and discussed scholarships applicants and a final decision was made on this date with one recipient for the Saab Service Scholarship and one recipient for the Freeman Service Scholarship. The Boyer Scholars program was discussed with a request to announce to faculty in each of the respective University Colleges or Schools.

The Outreach Advisor Committee remains grateful for the chance to serve the larger university committee in supporting UM-Flint’s University Outreach and Engagement. This unit continues to move UM-Flint forward along its Carnegie Foundation Classification for Civic Engagement.

Becky Rodda, PT, DPT, OCS
Clinical Associate Professor
Chair, Outreach Committee, 2014-2015