University Outreach Faculty Advisory Committee

2017-18 Annual Report to the University of Michigan-Flint Faculty Council on behalf of the University of Michigan-Flint Governing Faculties

Committee Membership and Meetings

The Committee membership consisted of:

- Christina Aplin-Kalisz (SON)
- Emily Feuerherm, Co-chair (CAS)
- Laura Friesen (Library)
- Lisa Lapeyrouse (SHPS)
- Keith Moreland, Co-chair (SOM)
- Pamela Ross McClain SEHS
- Paula Nas, ex officio (Director of University Outreach)
- Yongwei Wu (Student member)

Annette Patterson supported the work of the Committee, providing preparatory information for and attending all meetings.

The Committee met monthly throughout the academic year.

Goals and Actions

The Committee worked to advise the Director of University Outreach to achieve these Outreach goals for 2017-18:

1. Create a larger campus and community awareness of the programs and services offered by University Outreach.
2. Improve systematic tracking and data collection across department programs.
3. Support expanded faculty/student research & civic engagement with partners.
4. Coordinate and create community and economic development opportunities.
5. Identify, coordinate and promote Tri-Campus services and activities.

Related to these outreach goals, the Committee engaged in developing the process for faculty submissions and review of Civic Engagement Course Grant applications. Specifically, the Committee developed an evaluation rubric of applications, reviewed and evaluated faculty applications, and provided feedback to applicants.

The Committee also evaluated student applications and made recommendations for student award recipients of the Freeman True Blue Service Scholarship and Saab Signature Blue Service Scholarship. Approximately 55 Freeman and 37 Saab applications were reviewed with three total recipients recommended for the two scholarship (combined). Alternate recipients also were identified and recommended.
The Committee also focused on identifying ways to enhance the role of civic engagement in the teaching and research/scholarly activities of University faculty. There was a consensus among Committee members that the University Outreach Goals (particularly Goal 3 above), initiatives within the University Strategic Plan, and the University Carnegie Community Engagement classification warranted this focus. Some of the aspirational enhancements of the civic engagement role in faculty teaching and research include greater recognition of these activities in faculty performance evaluation and promotion and tenure guidelines.

The Committee recognizes that many of the teaching and research guidelines are established at the School/College level. Some of the actions undertaken by the Committee in 2017-18 to enhance the civic engagement role included discussions between individual Committee members and the Dean of their School/College about ideas and challenges to better incorporate civic engagement into faculty teaching and research responsibilities. These are beginning steps; the Committee hopes progress on these matters will continue in 2018-19 and in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. Moreland

Committee Co-Chair