

Report of the AETL Meeting, February 18, 2009

Attending: Jordan Goodman, Lily Griner, Denny Gulick, Frances Gulick, Barbara Jacoby, Maryann McDermott Jones, Ruth Lozner, Marcy Marinelli, Greg Staley, Jack Sullivan, Kaci Thompson, Sharon La Voy and Renée Snyder

1. Many thanks to Kaci for securing the room for our meeting.
2. The main discussion in the meeting concerned the Course Evaluations. Sharon La Voy and Renée Snyder, who are intimately involved with the Course Evaluations, attended, gave an overview and responded to questions from the Fellows. It turns out that approximately 36% of the courses campus-wide had at least 70% student evaluation response in Fall 2008. As it says in the Course Evaluations Faculty Fast Facts commentary, "CourseEvalUM results will be posted only for courses in which at least 70% of enrolled students completed their evaluations." There were a number of issues that arose, including what kind of protection should be afforded faculty against them (or administrators) being hurt by their reading intentionally hurtful and/or racist, sexist, or bigoted remarks.

Alternative suggestions included mid-semester questionnaires (so the students might feel more participatory in the teaching-course process), and faculty visits to classes.

3. Barb Jacoby mentioned that the Workshop (Lunch and Learn on Civic Engagement) at which Jack Sullivan was one panelist, was very successful. She thanked AETL for being a co-sponsor of the event.

4. The Emeriti issue. There was unanimous approval that something like the following be presented to the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee:

"It is critical that emeriti at UMD have at least the following from their erstwhile units:

- (a) An office or a shared office with a telephone and a computer
- (b) A mailbox, and access to email, photocopy and other research items
- (c) Notices of pertinent departmental functions
- (d) A parking location that is at least reasonably convenient to the unit."

If you have any suggestions please let me know. Otherwise I will take it to the Faculty Affairs Committee, of which I am a member.

Best wishes,
Denny