Faculty Assembly Report to Campus Assembly – 4/2/2015

**Academic Standards and Policies (Seyfried):** The AS&P committee has met multiple times this semester. Issues discussed include (1) academic suspension and dismissal policy, (2) scholastic dishonesty policy and reporting, (3) the acceptance of D grades within the major, (4) current S/N grading policy, and (5) an update to the syllabus template.

**Assessment (E. Castle):** The Assessment Committee encourages and enables assessment of student learning across campus. The committee this year is working with programs to implement the program assessment plans, with reports due to VCAA on May 15. The committee also hosted an educational session on March 24 to share ideas on program assessment.

**College Promotion and Tenure Review (Stewart):** The committee has been having ongoing discussions regarding a procedure for formative evaluation of Associate Professors. This purpose of this procedure would be to encourage Associate Professors to seek promotion to Professor, per the expectations of the University of Minnesota. The committee is also reviewing two files for faculty tenure.

**Curriculum (B. Dingmann):** As always, numerous items have advanced through the Curriculum Committee at this point of this semester. Some of the more substantial changes include (1) approval of a minor in Aviation, (2) approval of a new program in Exercise Science and Wellness, and (3) approval of a new program in Medical Laboratory Science (in partnership with UND).

**Consultative (K. Nannenga):** The Faculty Consultative Committee has primarily been discussing the Campus Technology Requirement and a possible review of UMC’s Evaluation of Teaching Policy. The discussion of our EOT policy is ongoing.

**Elections, Constitution and Bylaws (Leckie):** The committee submitted language to establish a new Faculty Distinguished Service Award, which was subsequently approved by Faculty Assembly.

**Faculty Awards (Dudley):** The committee has begun reviewing submissions for the Distinguished Teaching Award, which were due on March 27. The committee has also discussed (1) the possibility of adding an award associated with scholarly activity, and (2) ways of increasing involvement in the nomination process for awards, both for UMC awards and for University-wide awards.

**Faculty Development (Weir):** The committee’s primary focus has been to distribute funds for faculty development purposes. Dr. Keinath kindly agreed to increase the budget for this year to $17,500. As of the end of the 3Q, the committee has funded 13 applications, leaving a remaining balance of $6,723.15.
**Liberal Education Review:** UMC is currently in the beginning stages of a review of its Liberal Education program, as required by the Higher Learning Commission. The committee was finalized early in the Spring 2015 semester and is currently organizing itself as it prepares to begin the review in earnest.

**Honors Program Review (Johannesen):** The committee has finalized a survey for faculty, advisers, and staff, which will very soon be distributed electronically. The committee is also organizing at least two student focus groups, with one group planned for current Honors students and at least one more group planned for Honors-caliber students not currently participating in the program. Anyone with questions or feedback for the committee is encouraged to contact one of the committee members: Dani Johannesen (Chair), Brian Dingmann, Kenneth Johnson, Chris Stultz, or Dan Svedarsky.