

Minutes of the September 28, 2010 Professional Development Committee Meeting
(Prepared by Tim Brotherton)

Members present: Tim Brotherton, Adnan Dakkuri, Alison Konieczny, Piram Prakasam, Cecil Queen, and Roberta Teahen,

Members absent: Tom Hollen

Agenda

1. select chair of the committee
2. discuss third wave submissions for the 2009-2010 PDC grants

After some discussion, Tim Brotherton was nominated for the position of chair. The nomination was seconded. The vote was taken and Tim Brotherton was unanimously elected to the post of chair of the committee. After some additional discussion, it was suggested that the position be considered temporary until the next meeting with the full committee present. This would allow any new members joining the 2010-2011 PDC to ratify the decision. Tim Brotherton agreed.

General Discussion:

Although the committee members present were all returning members, there were concerns expressed during the meeting that the definition of professional development was not defined well enough and the committee was following an overly narrow interpretation of which professional development activities should be funded. After a lengthy discussion the majority remained comfortable with the current guidelines. However, the discussion was tabled and dissenters were encouraged to propose alternatives at the next full meeting. Presumably a future review of the guidelines will be necessary for the benefit of the new committee members.

At the conclusion of the meeting a committee member brought up concerns about the lack of submissions. A future discussion on improving the number of qualified submissions was suggested.

Grant Proposals:

J Randall Groves, *"Hindu and Buddhist Influences on Cambodian Art at Angkor Wat and the Evil of S-21"*

The request was for \$1034.00 for travel costs and scheduled tour.

Points raised in the discussion:

- Worthy project
- Professional knowledge developed that can be incorporated in the classroom
- Evaluation plan was a little "light"

A motion was made and seconded to approve full funding of the request. The motion was voted upon and was unanimously approved. A grant in the amount of \$1034 will be awarded.

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Charles Bacon, "E.T. MaP: a Second Life in Engineering Technology Mathematics and Physics"

Points raised in the discussion:

- Worthy objectives
- Project perhaps more suited for a curriculum development grant
- Concerns about the funds going to student wages to develop Flash modules instead of helping the faculty member develop skills
- Discussion on how the committee should define professional development (see general discussion item)

*A motion was made and seconded to reject the proposal. The proposal request for \$5546 was **rejected** by a simple majority vote.*

J Randal Groves, et al: "Infusing Indian Culture into the Classroom"

Points raised in the discussion:

- Potentially worthy project
- Goal of international travel was to be encouraged
- Was a collaboration across academic disciplines
- Lacked detailed itinerary
- Need agenda and outcomes
- Like a "cocktail," some of everything thrown in to the request
- Were meal amounts based on international travel?
- Interested in how collaboration with in-country experts would be used
- How would this trip be any different for a faculty member than a colloquium here on campus
- Needs additional budget specifics
- Concerns about fully funding the size of the request
- Not sure all applicants were board-appointed faculty members
- Lacked information on how individual faculty members were developing skills
- Unsure of the benefits of funding individuals to return to their native countries for professional development
- What are the bring-backs?
- Committee members familiar with the applicants felt project offered better faculty development opportunities than proposal suggested

*A motion was made to reject the proposal as written, but to encourage a future revised submission. Motion was seconded and unanimously carried. The grant request for \$17,750 was **rejected**.*

Meeting was dismissed.