

## **Faculty Development Committee 2006-07 Report**

The committee received 4 applications for Faculty Sabbaticals and one application for Faculty Connections. The committee recommended all applications for funding. The applications and recommendations were forwarded to the VPAA office with ranking of priority. Four of the five were funded; the lowest ranking application was the one not funded. The reason given was lack of funding.

The committee received 11 applications for Faculty Development and Research Grants. The committee recommended 8 applications for funding. The applications and recommendations were forwarded to the VPAA office with ranking of priority. Seven of the eight recommended applications were funded. The eighth application was not funded because the applicant was not returning to Longwood University for the 2007-08 year. Only recommended applications were funded.

### **Recommendations for 2007-08**

- We strongly recommend that an appendix be created to clearly define the criteria for Faculty Sabbaticals.

Rational: There are no clear guidelines for Faculty Sabbaticals. There are clear guidelines for Faculty Connections in Appendix M of FPPM and for Faculty Research and Development Grants in Appendix K. The only guidelines for Faculty Sabbaticals are on pages 104-105. This does not include the detail needed for faculty to write proposals not for committee members to evaluate proposals.

- A rubric or point system for evaluating Faculty Sabbaticals and Faculty Connections should be developed.

Rational: Appendix K has a clear point distribution for Faculty Research and Development Grants. This gives committee members clear guidelines on evaluation each proposal. It also lets the applicant know how his/her proposal will be evaluated. A rubric or point scale would make the evaluation more open and fair.

- We recommend that copies of reports for Faculty Sabbaticals and Faculty Connections be sent to the Faculty Development Committee.

Rational: Some of the faculty who apply for Faculty Research and Development Grants are applying to continue their work started during Faculty Sabbaticals and Faculty Connections. Copies of their reports would help the committee make more informed decisions about grant recommendations. Copies of the previous year's reports for Sabbaticals and Faculty Connections are forwarded to the VPAA. It would be easy to forward copies of those applications to the Faculty Development Committee.

- We recommend that samples of exemplary applications for sabbaticals, faculty Connections, and Faculty research and Connections Grants be posted on the Faculty Senate website.

Rational: For a faculty member who has never written a grant proposal, the process can be very tedious and unfamiliar. This is especially true for junior faculty. With our present system, those who have been previously funded have an advantage over others. Sample applications help those who have no experience by improving the quality of those proposals.