

# Strategic Plan – Initiative Work Plan FY2015

Initiative Name Faculty Development Date 05/30/14

Goal # 6 Goal Chair(s) Bradley/McKee

Initiative # 2 Initiative Chair(s) Lisa Spence

**Thesis Statement: Resources are needed to support the continued development and creation of The Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence and to elevate and inform an overall culture of teaching innovation and excellence.**

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## **1. Introduction/Background – What?**

Faculty development efforts have been re-energized with the development of the Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence (FCTE). The Center was created last year, but only functioned with a part time director and start up funding. A fulltime director has been hired and the FCTE continues to need resources to build a functional gathering place to provide faculty quality professional support and development.

## **2. Proposal/Purpose/Justification – Why?**

This proposal calls for resources to:

- a) provide basic support materials for faculty here on campus, focused on teaching excellence;
- b) promote frequent interaction and discussion among external and internal influences;
- c) promote attendance at external events directed at the improvement of teaching skills and the promotion of an overall culture of teaching excellence; and
- d) build student success champions among interested faculty.

## **3. Discussion of Past Years Results – Benchmark Successes?**

The FCTE was established in the fall of 2014, and Dr. Beth Whitaker was named interim director. This was only a part time position and the new location in Cunningham Memorial Library was a work in progress throughout the year. At this time, Dr. Whitaker has been named fulltime director and a part time administrative assistant was hired in April. Although progress on the Center was made last year, there is much to be done. The Center has hosted several programs, events, and workshops this past year and is now better able to understand the necessary elements for long term success. The FCTE is still in need of adequate furniture, technology, and resources to fully implement a quality professional development experience for faculty.

## **4. Work Plan, Next Fiscal Year – Action Steps – Process – How?**

- a) Continue to establish the Center with appropriate connections among faculty around campus and create its identity with stake holders.
- b) Build relationships with individual faculty interested in improving and expanding their teaching skills
- c) Update support materials – continue the purchase of current texts and online resources relating to teaching excellence
- d) Continue to design a program of workshops and professional development opportunities that emphasize and build practices for the continuous improvement of teaching skills

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- e) Identify individual faculty with particular interests and capabilities and promote their efforts, Funding their attendance at another summer institute similar to the *Ken Bain Best Teachers Institute* would continue to build instructional expertise on campus.
- f) Identify ways to capture interest in and attendance at events, in order to shape program offerings in the future.
- g) Build upon the current FCTE Website and create weekly teaching correspondence with faculty that focuses on best practices of teaching and learning.

### **5. Reporting and Deliverable Schedule – When?**

Report of activities completed, including names of faculty who participated in FCTE events and activities, will be delivered to the Provost at the end of the spring semester 2015.

### **6. Budget – How Much, a General Discussion of Funds Use?**

A total of \$24,868 is requested. Funding will be used to support and promote events intended to energize and develop a consistent and visible pattern and practice of discussion, learning, and activities associated with teaching excellence, and also to expand the group of recognized leaders in this area. Funding will also help to build an engaging and interactive professional environment for faculty. It is essential that faculty feel professional and valued when they attend Center events.

### **7. Stakeholders and Management Plan – Who?**

New and experienced faculty  
Academic Affairs leadership  
Students

This effort will be led by Dr. Beth Whitaker, Director of the Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence.

### **8. Outcome Assessment & Future Testing**

Surveys of faculty participating in events, including reflections on specific improvements made in their teaching.

Improved awareness of efforts and increased attendance at faculty development events among all faculty members, as reflected in information capture about attendance during all FCTE events.

### **9. Line Item Budget Discussion that tracks Budget Templates ...**

A total amount of \$24,868 is requested to cover these costs/activities:

- 1) Technology for the FCTE that would allow workshop participants the ability to use programs and teaching tools during workshop sessions. This would include five Lenovo ThinkPad laptops. (est. \$6,015)
- 2) Food allowance for sponsored events in order to promote and facilitate attendance at lunch and other times (est. \$4,500)
- 3) Movable, folding, and multifunctional tables and chairs to allow for creative work configurations in the FCTE. The Center occupies a relatively small space and staff must be able to move furniture quickly and easily as the needs change on a daily (sometimes hourly) basis. (est. \$6,232)

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- 4) Funding to send three Indiana State University faculty members to a summer institute focused on teaching. These faculty members would return to campus and facilitate professional development for the campus based upon their new pedagogy knowledge and skill acquisition. (est. \$4, 981)
- 5) Funding for texts and resources to support faculty development. (est. \$3,140)

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