

IFC Report
October 10, 2006
Presented by Teresa Thiel

The IFC met September 21, 2006. The main item on the agenda was the organization of IFC tasks for the year among three subcommittees.

1. Subcommittee on Assessment and Accountability:
 - Definition of assessment
 - Evaluation of assessment instruments
2. Subcommittee on Faculty Personnel Policies:
 - Amorous relationships
 - Faculty leave policies
 - Faculty tenure-clock extensions
 - Background checks on faculty
3. Subcommittee on Administrative Policies
 - A21 compliance
 - College costs and accountability
 - E-procurement

IFC approved the final draft of the document "Recommended Best Practices for Non-Tenure Track Faculty" that was circulated on all four campuses last spring and modified over the summer. There were no substantive changes to the document in the latest revision.

There was a presentation by Steve Lehmkuhle of a Faculty Communication Report that included information obtained from a student survey on problems students have with faculty or graduate teaching assistants whose first language is not English. Especially for faculty, the survey found that difficulty in understanding the accent to be one the major complaints of students. The System has provided funds to all the campuses to offer individual accent reduction classes for interested faculty.

Ken Hutchinson said that the System had budgeted an increase of 7.5% for the medical plan for this year, but that it will not be needed. There is also a decrease in the employer cost of the Long Term Disability Plan. This does not affect the cost to the employee but does mean that the University will have more funds. There will be a new eye care plan that will be employee funded beginning in January 2007.