

Meeting of the New Spring Term Courses Pioneers Group
Friday, June 6, 2008
AGENDA

1. Welcome and overview, Provost Aprille

2. Professor Conner: Briefly discuss the Q.E.P., then look at the New Spring Term Courses: reviewing the mission statement and learning goals

3. Initial discussion: what are we teaching, and how does it fit with the conception of the spring term? → several questions to pursue:
 - What will the work-load be like for faculty? for students?
 - What is the relation of the spring term to the rest of the academic year?
 - What is your ideal class size for your particular course?
 - What do we do about students who also have a 1-credit course in music or theater that conflicts with your course somewhat?
 - What are the costs for your course? what sort of budget does your course require?
 - What do we think about a pass/fail option for spring term?
 - What is the aim of your course? Does it target first-year students, senior majors, or what?
 - Is your course interdisciplinary?
 - What assessment tools would be helpful and appropriate for your course?
 - Would a standard evaluation form for spring term courses be useful (to supplement existing faculty/departmental evaluation forms)?

4. Small group breakout: to share your individual course proposals, talk about your expectations, challenges, excitements, dreads, potential problems, possible solutions, etc.

5. Re-group as a whole and each small group shares: 1) a few examples of very positive outcomes they anticipate from these courses, and 2) a few examples of potential problems or concerns they have with these courses.

6. Discuss summer plans – what you hope to accomplish, what the challenges are. Then briefly brainstorm about the Faculty Academy session at the end of August and what we hope to produce for that.