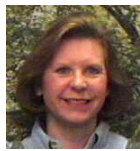


Department of Family Development – Much to Accomplish

Situation:



Donna Doll-Yogerst is in her 3rd year as DFD Chairman. The department chair responsibility takes an incredible amount of time, usually on nights and weekends. I find this new venture in my career rewarding although sometimes frustrating. I am very fortunate to have department colleagues ready to step up to the plate when decisions are needed and tasks need completing. I also find new colleagues exploring the department and how they fit in. As their tenure home they receive guidance from wonderful colleagues informally as well as formally as mentors. I heard a department head state that they hire the best, they stay close in touch and they assist with their development as they move toward the tenure process. He stated they do this to protect their “gene pool” for not only their department but also for the University. I found this an interesting comment, but as I think about it, I find credence in this statement.

Response:

We are reviewing and revising our formal mandates in order to strategically position the department for future success. To accomplish this, the DFD is reviewing and revising bylaws and appendices. We have very capable committees working on this enormous task. I continue to believe the committees should function with a minimum of intrusion from the DFD chair. I listen to Wisline meetings when I am able and answer questions as they arise.

Results:

This task will be ready for vote at the May 1, 2008 DFD face-to-face meeting in Stevens Point. A mentoring ad hoc committee is working on the afternoon program “Weaving Scholarship in All we Do” as we begin a mentor/mentee learning and growing cycle.



Evidence:

As I review the revisions, I believe the DFD ad hoc documents review committee has been open about the suggested revisions, as well as has asked for feedback at DFD Wisline meetings. We will be ready for a healthy discussion among colleagues on May 1st.