



Mellon Library/Faculty Fellows for Undergraduate Research Planning and Pilot Project Mid-year Collaboration Feedback 2003

Overall Summary:

Seven of the Steering Committee members responded to the survey. In general, members reported being quite satisfied with the functioning of the group. Members said that they enjoyed working with the group, felt people were participating equally, and the diversity of members was a strength.

The actual survey responses are summarized below. For ease of reading, verbatim responses are organized by theme when appropriate. Simple averages have been used for those responses that required ratings.

1. On a scale of 1 to 3, (1 = Not at all, 2 = Somewhat, 3 = Very) how *satisfied* are you with the way the group is working?

Average Score: 2.5

2. On a scale of 1 to 3, (1 = Not at all, 2 = somewhat, 3 = very) please rate the *effectiveness* of the following aspects of communication used in this project:

- a. Email, Average score: 2.9
- b. Website, Average score: 3.0
- c. In-person meetings, Average score: 2.21
- d. Informal workgroups/task forces, Average score: 2.8

3. What do you like about working with this group and hope will continue throughout the duration of the project?

The people work hard and they work well together

- the people are wonderful
- everyone is comfortable expressing their opinion, even when we disagree with one another
- Most individuals carrying their share of the work
- Support from VP-UE is obvious and appreciated and helpful
- Everyone works hard.

Collaborating with other units and learning more about them

- getting to know more about the nature of work and issues facing others in their units; I'm getting a much better sense of the Library, how it works, its mission, etc.
- I appreciate the knowledge that the various members bring. I also like the opportunity for brainstorming and shared problem-solving that the meetings offer.
- I enjoy working on elements of a large project together, all the better that the project is about teaching and learning. Members of this group offer an interesting collection of personal experiences, organizational perspectives, and expertise. Throughout the project I would like us to maintain our senses of humor and esprit de corps.

Shared commitment and goals

- Commitment of those involved to improving teaching and learning; humor
- Shared vision and common goals
- Alignment with WASC and other campus initiatives

Other

- The informality
- Mutual respect and support
- Catalyst for other projects and initiatives around teaching and learning

4. How might we improve on the way we work together?

Change meetings, delegate more responsibility to individuals

Continue team building

Improve working relationships

5. General comments:

- Everything is working very well! I'm very happy with how things are going.
- I've enjoyed being part of this team with such a talented group of dedicated individuals. The partnerships developed in relation to this specific project will continue to expand to encompass our work on the campus more broadly; this is a great added benefit of the project. The campus needs more of these kinds of collaborations to offset the tendency for our collective efforts to become compartmentalized and "silo-based."
- In general I think the project is going very well, but we need to spend a little more time and thought on the collaboration, both for this project and in terms of other projects. I also think that we need to field test some of our workshops on each other, to test the content and methodology and to learn a lot from each other in the process.

Suggestions for dealing with concerns included:

- More delegation and use of workgroups, less meetings of the Steering Committee.
- Build more collective ownership for the project as a way to build participants' enthusiasm and understanding of the project.
- Hold a retreat/meeting focused on learning more about one another's units and work, and to focus in on building a stronger collaborative effort. [follow on meeting was held in March 2003]