

University Council on Teaching
Meeting of Wednesday Feb 1, 2017
CTE Innovation Lab
1:30 PM -2:45 PM

Commenced: 1:37 PM

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How do we get people to apply?

- One suggestion-Invite teams from different departments or anyone who wants to work on a course

It is tough to get people to come as people are always busy.

More importantly, how do you keep it going?

- You keep it going by not boxing it in with too many restrictions
- You attract people to the retreat by the ethos of the retreat as well as the location of the retreat

Characteristics of a good retreat location

- Participants having their own bedroom and bathroom
- Meals inclusive
- Great environment regardless of the weather
- A place where you can walk/ride

What are the benefits of the retreat to teaching?

- Time: Great for finishing unfinished work
- Community: Great for meeting new people of varying backgrounds, ages, and specialties. Also, great for removing the isolation out of working on teaching and teaching related activities.
- Joyful Exuberance: People are so grateful for the support given
- Trust: After the retreat, there is revived or strengthened trust in BC management where there seems to have been a lack of amongst junior faculty

We have been thinking about rewarding teaching and the retreat could in fact be a reward.

How do we make this happen?

We need to decide on what we expect to achieve and what structure we wish to employ.

Tentative start of program in June 2018.

Intersections would be willing to be co-sponsors by funding a third of the program but they cannot run it.

The program could become a signature program of the CTE.

There needs to be an element of diversity amongst the participants in the retreat.

To start the program, we need to create a proposal for the Provost and the Deans in order to get their support.

The proposal should include achievable goals for the pilot.

What is the cost per person?

- E.g, Villa is \$1300 for four nights and five days

The retreat should be as open as possible (more restrictions, less people)

Right after commencement would be a good time for the retreat.

When planning the number of participants, does starting small make sense?

- Numbers matter a lot but teaching may be different so it will have to be experimented with.

Should we have office hours or structure?

- Both but still maintaining freedom
- There could be optional scheduled sessions
- There could be groups for certain professional issues and questions

