The AAA-IS Faculty Development Committee Report 2000-2001

Committee charge: examine faculty development issues of the membership and explore opportunities.

The committee consists of Stephanie Bryant, Scott Summers, and Saeed Roohani (chair)

What we did:

The committee decided to conduct an informal survey of the membership to identify key issues and essential faculty development needs.

Each member of the committee contacted a few AIS faculty members, mostly AAA-IS members, and had informal conversations. Approximately, we had informal talks with 25 individuals. In addition, we solicited input from a few accounting firms.

Results of our informal survey:

Here is a summary of input we got from our informal survey:

1- Need for centrally located AIS resource center for teaching materials, cases, etc. Some people do not know what we already have at different sites such as Dan O'leary's.

2- Challenges of constantly learning new areas such as e-commerce, ERP, Web privacy and security, XBRL, etc. Sometimes students are ahead of us in the use of technology.

3- The AAA-IS site is potentially under utilized for FD opportunities (e.g., cases, how-to, etc).

4- Need for more opportunities for faculty and students to tackle "real world" experiences – do meaningful projects outside the college.

5- Experiential learning suggested by the AAA monograph; experiential leaning in AIS, should IS sections lead the way.

6- Experiential learning such as consulting is an ideal way to integrate critical thinking, technology, and problem solving skills into the AIS curriculum.

7- Need more interactions between junior and senior faculty to provide additional research opportunities for the junior faculty.

8- Some faculty members currently teaching AIS courses are not aware of the AAA-IS section. Do we need more out-reach activities? The growing numbers in the AIS listserv may suggest this.

9- More communications between journal editors and junior faculty (e.g., editors panel at the symposium and national meetings)

10- Need for an updated version of the AAA's document on teaching and domains of AIS. There are few recent articles suggesting parameters and boundaries for the AIS. So a curriculum committee can look at updating this document.

11- Faculty residency/internships

This last item seems to be very important to the membership, bring skills up-to-date as well as providing current experience. Scott had contacted some firms and discussed possibility of AIS faculty residency/internship. Additional comments about residency/internship:

- AACSB Accounting accreditation now requires some currency in the field for faculty qualifications.
- More faculty could free up two to three weeks than three or four months for internship
- Does or should the IS section cover some costs?
- There are two types of internship/residency:
  - Full-time residency with pay for a semester or so: this is NOT common
  - Part-time or engagement-basis; faculty essentially becomes an observer: this is more common.

We have contacted Jane Muchler (AAA Faculty Development Committee) about our thoughts in this area. She was not aware of any AAA initiative in this area. Jane noted some faculty residency programs sponsored by the IMA and Arthur Andersen. She suggested that we should request an agenda item at the AAA business meeting. She also referred us to Tracey Sutherland.

Next Step:

Discussion within the membership to prioritize above issues and develop implementations plans.

AAA-IS Section, Faculty Development Committee
Summary of Faculty Development Recommendations
As of October 23, 2000
Saeed Roohani, Scott Summers, Stephanie Bryant

Curriculum	Outreach	Faculty Development	Research
Need for more cases with data and suggested tools Discussion/documentation/direction (recommendation) on traditional vs. contemporary approaches to teaching AIS	How to make people more aware of the IS section	Need for current experience with AIS, possibly through faculty internships/residencies Short-term vs. long-	Need for forum of exchange of research ideas Opportunities

	and the resources available therein	term internship/residencies	for junior faculty to collaborate with experienced AIS faculty
What should we be teaching in AIS classes? Distinguishing between UG and Grad AIS classes Need for experiential learning in AIS—how to accomlish this?		Should we offer any support for expenses for a faculty internship/residency? Need for the IS website to offer classroom exchange, class materials, cases, etc. Appropriate course load for AIS faculty in recognition of need to stay current and the work involved therein How to stay current in technology given the ever-changing technlogy environment	Identification of AIS research outlets vis-à-vis P&T decisions