FAUS-COE Research Committee
September 10, 2007

Minutes

Present: Lorraine Cross, Gail Burnaford, Jenny O’Sullivan, Ira Bogotch, John Hardman, Stephanie Czepan, Tammy Bresnahan, Terry Clark, Lindsay Plas, Susannah Brown

1. Minutes of the previous meeting, May, 14, 2007, were approved.

2. On-going research projects were presented by John Hardman. Only three projects have been submitted [i.e., Burnaford, Ievoli, Burnaford, Clark, and Bjorklund/Justin/Rosenberg brief descriptions of the projects. We are requesting that ALL on-going work be included along with the starting dates and status of the IRB.

3. Discussion items were raised by Ira Bogotch regarding the status and impact of research at Henderson. Among the questions asked was the relationship between increased research activities and whole school improvement. Dr. Burnaford suggested that individual research projects need not have school wide implications to be worthwhile. The phrase “variety of scales” was introduced to describe this plurality of research projects. Others mentioned how their own works could be expanded or disseminated more systematically among the Henderson faculty. Everyone acknowledged that the increased research projects have changed the way Henderson teachers talk about research – i.e., action research, self-reflection, even the initials IRB are all frequently used and better understood than previously. Tammy Bresnahan suggested that professional development time could include the dissemination of research results from the many Henderson projects.

   a. It was agreed that there was a role for leadership to champion research and to encourage more visual representations of on-going work.
   b. It was agreed to look at the original questions and the discussion to see whether this should be integrated into the mission statement or appear on the website.
   c. It was agreed that whole school research and individual research project research was NOT an either-or. The consensus called for both. We would explore how to “scale out” and “disseminate” FAUS-COE research.

4. Gail Burnaford announced that the Action Research syllabus had been unanimously approved by the new Departments in Teacher Education. However, in subsequent discussions, the question of course title and “home” for the new course still requires further discussions.

5. The question of FAUS-COE Research Committee becoming a standing committee would require that the Committee pursue the drafting of bylaws and moving through the
different accreditation and policy committees at the College. It was agreed to bring a
draft of new bylaws to the next meeting.

6. Meeting Dates: Second Monday of Each Month
   October 8
   November 19
   January 14
   February 11

Minutes prepared by Ira Bogotch [last year’s secretary]