Committee: **Professional Development**

**Date:** Academic Year 2008-09

A brief midyear report of activities, functions, or recommendations of the committee include:

The Professional Development Committee developed and conducted an online survey of the full-time and adjunct faculty to determine professional development needs and desires, evaluation of past experiences and recommendations for resource purchases. Committee Chair, Alison DeLong, presented the results of that survey to the faculty at the Spring 09 In-service. Assessment was voted as the number one need. To that end, the committee voted to have Dr. Neil Pagano come to campus to speak to the faculty about that topic this spring. Dr. Pagano comes as the recommendation of Joan Stirling. He is an evaluator for the Higher Learning Commission. The following is a short description of his expertise:

**Neil Pagano, PhD**

Dr. Neil Pagano is the Associate Dean for the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Columbia College Chicago.

Prior to becoming associate dean, Dr. Pagano was Director of Assessment at the College, where he led the assessment efforts of all of the College's programs. In 2002, Pagano received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) to lead an inter-institutional, general education assessment project.

In addition to his work at the Columbia, Dr. Pagano is a Consultant/Evaluator for the Higher Learning Commission’s Program to Evaluate and Advance Quality (PEAQ) and has consulted with more than 60 institutions, primarily on assessment of student learning.

Before he joined Columbia, Pagano was a member of the faculty in the Department of Languages and Literature at St. Augustine College in Chicago. He received a BA from the University of Wisconsin (English), a Masters in Education from the University of Illinois-Chicago, and the PhD in Higher Education from Loyola University Chicago.

Joan is making arrangements for Dr. Pagano. The date of his presentation will be announced shortly.
The Professional Development Committee is also in the process of developing a proposal to submit to Faculty Council to invite faculty to present on other topics identified as priorities in the survey via a monthly Brown Bag get-together, beginning in the 2009-10 Academic Year.

In addition to the Chair, the very dedicated and hard-working committee members are Joanna Fulbright (Immediate Past Chair), Tracie Morris (Secretary), David Mitchell and Katie Wilson.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison DeLong, Chair