2003-2004 Planning Document: Program Goal, Means of Implementation, and Budget

As an interdisciplinary collaborative academic unit whose mission is to advance the art of teaching at all levels, the Center for the Advancement of Teaching contributes to the creation of a pluralistic teaching and learning environment for Xavier’s faculty members and, in turn, their students. By providing resources and opportunities for Xavier’s faculty to revise pedagogy in innovative ways and pursue other professional goals, the Center assists faculty in incorporating relevant educational means to prepare Xavier’s students to assume roles of leadership in community and society. The Center’s participation in preparing future leaders furthers the University’s ultimate purpose of creating a more just and humane society.

The Center for the Advancement of Teaching is at crossroads as concerns its grant-funded initiatives. Although we are fortunate to currently have three grants, we need to look past the year 2005 when these grants will expire. Thus, we have begun to gather input from the faculty regarding the direction or programmatic elements of a new grant proposal.

The goal proposed in this document represents that which the Center’s staff members have chosen to give specific attention during the 2003-2004 academic year. This goal and its means of implementation are intended neither to be comprehensive nor to represent the complete work of the Center. Achieving this particular goal, however, is an important and necessary step in clarifying and paving the way for the future work of the Center. In addition, we anticipate that the process we will follow in working toward this goal will allow us to examine our mission, rethink staff responsibilities and needs, and, most importantly, think deeply about how better the Center could serve the needs and interests of faculty, particularly as they relate to teaching and learning.

2003-2004 Goal and Means of Implementation

Goal
Write a concept paper that describes the programmatic elements or direction of a new grant initiative of the Center for the Advancement of Teaching.

Means
1. Identify the interests, priorities, and needs of faculty as they relate to teaching and learning.

   At the time of writing this planning document, the Center for the Advancement of Teaching has begun collecting this information. Specifically:

   • We will continue to seek information of this nature through meetings with the Center's Faculty Advisory Group that will be held throughout the academic year.
• The Director of the Center has asked department chairs to devote at least a portion of a Fall 2002 departmental faculty meeting to faculty discussion of the following:

Imagine the Center for the Advancement of Teaching having unlimited resources to support the goals of all departments. What are the needs of your department, as they relate to teaching and learning, which could be addressed through the use of these resources?

• The Center has requested permission of the Coordinating Committee of the Academic Assembly to distribute a faculty development survey at the University Academic Assembly scheduled for December 3, 2002. This survey would, in part, be used to help further identify the interests, priorities, and needs of faculty vis-à-vis teaching and learning.

2. The Director of the Center will seek input from the administration regarding the possible direction or programmatic elements of this new grant proposal.

3. The Director of the Center will seek the assistance of the Office of Institutional Advancement in identifying potential sources of funding.

**Budget and Budget Rationale**

The proposed budget and rationale are available by contacting the Center for the Advancement of Teaching at 483.7512 or via e-mail at cat@xula.edu.