

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes November 21, 2008

Members Present:

Jim Brink, Jerry Hudson, Lynn Huffman, William Lan, Audra Morse, Nancy Soonpaa, Roman Taraban, Peter Westfall

Members Not Present:

Cindy Akers, Debbie Laverie, David Roach, William Westney

Review and approve minutes:

Minutes from October 24, 2008 were distributed. Jim Brink moved that the minutes be approved. Audra Morse seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Announcements:

*Dr. Williams Westney, newest recipient of the Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award, expressed his thanks to the Executive Council by way of a note posted in today's agenda.

*Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award applications are due in the Office of the Provost February 2, 2009.

*Ballots will be sent to all Teaching Academy members the week of December 1, 2009 in order to elect six new members to the DETA Selection Committee. Members rotating off the committee are Bill Dean (Mass Comm), Raymond Desrosiers (Engineering), Gary Elbow (Honors), Elizabeth Loudon (Architecture), Karen Meaney (Arts & Sciences), and Michael San Francisco (Arts & Sciences).

*Roman introduced guest Dr. Jeff Dressel, Assistant Professor of Psychology. Dr. Dressel is a new faculty member and serves on the Events Committee of the Psychology Department.

Revision of OP 32.13:

Original and proposed change in wording in CAPS to OP32.13 #7:

(Original)

After discussion, rating sheets will be collected from each member of the Executive Council. Each nominee's total score, as reported by each Executive Council member, will be added together. The sum of each nominee's scores shall be reported to the Council in order from highest to lowest score. The highest score shall be considered to be the recommendation of the Council to the Office of the Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. In the event of a tie, discussion of the tied nominations followed by re-rating according to the procedure outlined in 5-7 shall occur iteratively until a single high score can be reported.

(Proposed)

COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL CONVERT TOTAL SCORES FOR NOMINEES TAKEN FROM OP32.13 ATTACHMENT B INTO RANKS. THE NOMINEE WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE WILL BE RANKED AS 1, THE SECOND HIGHEST AS 2, AND SO ON. TIES IN SCORES WILL BE RANKED AS THE AVERAGE OF THE TWO RELEVANT RANKS (E.G., 3RD AND 4TH = 3.5). Rating sheets, WITH RANKS INCLUDED, will be collected from each member of the Executive Council. Each nominee's RANK, as reported by each Executive Council member, will be added together. The sum of each nominee's RANKS shall be reported to the Council in order from LOWest to HIGHest. The LOWest SUM OF RANKS shall be considered to be the recommendation of the Council to the Office of the Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. In the event of a tie, THE SUM OF THE TOTAL RAW SCORES FOR THE TIED NOMINEES WILL BE USED TO DECIDE THE RECOMMENDATION.

The committee reviewed the changes. The Executive Council will do the rankings themselves. Roman assured everyone that each step of the committee's proceedings will be double-checked for accuracy. He will submit the proposed changes to Dr. Rob Stewart in the Office of the Provost for consideration.

Status of the Advocacy Committee:

Debbie Laverie will update the Executive Council about the status of the Advocacy Committee at a future meeting.

Reports from Working Subgroup Chairs:

Membership - Jim Brink, Chair: Jim Brink and Audra Morse met to review the membership lists compiled from all available Teaching Academy records. They agreed that the roster needs to be cleaned up. They proposed the following: list members in the Teaching Academy in the following manner: the first list is an alpha list combining both "a," "b," and "c" below:

- a. **Charter (or Founding?) members.** All currently active faculty who were inducted into the academy in the founding year of 1997.
- b. **Active members.** The remainder of the currently active members, with year of induction.
- c. **Retired members.** Any member listed as of 10/23/08 who is retired, i.e., no longer teaching.
- d. A second list of all **active ("a" + "b") members by college.**

It was suggested that we consider having one list and be able to query members three different ways. To improve accuracy in the list, Executive Council members will review the Teaching Academy members from their respective colleges. Tina will meet with programmers from the TLTC to coordinate approved changes.

Burns Conference – Nancy Soonpaa, Chair: Nancy Soonpaa and David Roach agreed that we need a different assessment/evaluation form that will give more detailed opinions. Other discussion included: how we can improve the conference; how we can get good teachers to speak; how we can get people to see past their home department when considering attending the conference; and how we can include more than one speaker at our conference where the speakers would complement each other. We will consult with Jeff Dressel to see if we can perhaps coordinate with the Psychology department, which is also planning on bringing in an outside speaker in Fall 2009.

Survey – William Lan, Chair: William presented an update from his group, focusing on how to move forward. They considered auxiliary issues and extra activities that should be added to the survey. Peter Westfall noted the need to keep the survey simple in order to encourage individuals to respond. One suggestion was to make larger categories with sub-bullet points such as beginning a book club, teaching larger classes, developing a syllabus, and engaging in active learning. Shared interests naturally help to form the groups. The Executive Council will continue to discuss this at the next meeting.

Next meeting: Friday, January 16, 2009 at 12:00 noon, TLTC room 152.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Tina Sansom