

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes October 24, 2008

Members Present:

Jim Brink, Jerry Hudson, William Lan, David Roach, Nancy Soonpaa, Roman Taraban, Peter Westfall

Members Not Present:

Cindy Akers, Lynn Huffman, Debbie Laverie, Audra Morse, William Westney

Review and approve regular and business meeting minutes:

Minutes from September 26, 2008 and the general business meeting held on October 3, 2008 were distributed. Jim Brink moved that the minutes be approved. Nancy Soonpaa seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Announcements:

*Roman thanked the Executive Council for their assistance with Dr. Whittington's visit as invited guest speaker for the John Burns conference.

*Roman also expressed his thanks to the Executive Council for participation in the selection of the Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award Recipient for 2008-09.

Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award scoring procedure:

The committee discussed the effects of using raw scores versus ranks in selecting the Chancellor's Council Award recipient. Possible changes to OP 32.13 would give the committee some leeway regarding ratings and rankings of the candidates. OP 32.13 allows scores up to 30 points to be awarded to each candidate (external indicators: 1-10 points; internal indicators 1-10 points; evidence of sustained teaching excellence: 1-10 points). Various suggestions were made: get better data to begin with; give the committee better tools to work with; don't be too prescriptive or restrictive-let the criteria determine the best teacher; change to an A, B, C scale where A=30-20, B=20-10, C=10-0; instead of using a scale of 1-10, shrink scale to 1-3; leave OP 32.13 as is; change from raw scores to ranks.

After having thoroughly discussed all suggestions, Roman moved to recommend to the Provost that the scoring procedure in TTU OP 32.13 (*Attachment B: Protocol for Developing a Recommendation for the Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award*) be modified in order to allow the raw scores to be converted to ranks. Raw scores would be used in tiebreaking situations. Jerry Hudson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Status of the Advocacy Committee:

Roman will email Debbie Laverie and Cindy Akers for particulars on this committee.

Award Winner Plaques:

Roman noted the poor attendance of the teaching award winners receiving plaques and asked the committee if we should continue to distribute the plaques at the New Member Induction Ceremony. Jim Brink suggested that Executive Council members make personal phone calls to the award winners to encourage attendance. It was also suggested that instead of recognizing each plaque recipient individually, we call them forward as groups according to the various awards. The committee agreed to continue this honor for one more year and see if participation improves.

Working Subgroups:

The following subgroups were formed to discuss and work out a near-term plan for:

*Burns Conference: review feedback sheets and set up tentative plans for next year's conference, including the possibility of having a keynote session in the Matador Room.

Nancy Soonpaa, David Roach

*Membership: develop and implement a plan for updating the TA membership roster on the TA website. Possible groups may include members for less than 5 years, members for more than 5 years, active retired, and retired.

Jim Brink

*Survey: form subgroups based on survey, possibly including a follow-up survey.

William Lan, Jerry Hudson, Peter Westfall

Each subgroup should submit a brief written report to Tina for circulation prior to the next meeting.

Next meeting: Friday, November 21, 2008 12:00 noon

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Tina Sansom