

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes April 3, 2009

Members Present:

Jim Brink, Susan Fortney, Lynn Huffman, David Roach, Roman Taraban, Peter Westfall, William Westney

Members Not Present:

Cindy Akers, Jerry Hudson, William Lan, Debbie Laverie, Audra Morse

Review and approve minutes:

Minutes from January 23, 2009 were distributed. Tina will correct the minutes under the heading of *Reports from subcommittees: Nameplates*. William Westney, not William Lan, moved to have departmental plaques made. Lynn Huffman moved that the minutes be approved. Susan Fortney seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Announcements:

*Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award winner is the Department of Health, Exercise, & Sport Sciences.

*The Executive Council did not meet in February because the committees were doing their work and there was no need for a meeting.

*Roman acknowledged the loss of Executive Council member, Dr. Gwen Sorell. Gwen was inducted into the Teaching Academy in 2001 and elected to the Executive Council in 2006.

Update on TA membership on web: Tina

Ravi Ankam, TLTC graduate assistant, is currently working on updates of the Teaching Academy website.

Roman would like to have all dates on the *membership criteria* pages updated. He would also like for us to open the online membership application feature as soon as possible. Tina will make an announcement when this function is up and running on the website.

Discussion of DETA reception:

Roman will contact Dr. Rob Stewart, Interim Senior Vice Provost, to make remarks.

Update on TA promotion:

We will have to get some quotes on the large departmental plaques if we go forward with this project. Jim Brink said he believes that the individual nameplates are much more appealing. The recognition each Teaching Academy member would receive would be greater than names listed on a large plaque. Susan Fortney will check on some promotional items that other departments have used. The committee will continue discussion at the next meeting.

Update on Advocacy survey:

Revision of the survey is in the works. The committee wants to make sure that the survey will do what we want it to do. It was suggested that we use the original members that responded with various interests in the first survey as our foundation. Once subcommittees are created, Executive Council members might consider acting as liaisons to each group. Roman will meet with William Lan and send out an email to the committee with any new information.

Update on Burns SoTL conference:

Roman distributed information on Craig Nelson, Tim Plax, and Steven Beebe. The committee reviewed the list of names suggested so far. Jim Brink would like to have a speaker that we could actually observe teaching. William Westney suggested getting someone to talk about today's generation. Possible themes for the conference: "Anatomy of a Student in 2009"; "The Twitter Generation"; "Teaching in the 21st Century". The committee also suggested that we get co-sponsors.

Other business:

Texas Public Policy Foundation: William Westney recommended that the Executive Council be aware and vigilant about possible upcoming pressures from the state, that may emanate from this foundation, to institute reward systems for teaching that might be very different in philosophy from those of the Texas Tech Teaching Academy.

Next meeting: Friday, May 1st, 2009 at 12:00 noon, TLTC room 152.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Tina Sansom