

## **Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes**

### **December 8, 2023**

#### **Members Present:**

Karen Alexander (Chair), Fanni Coward, Charles Crews, David Roach, Mitzi Ziegner, Nancy Soonpaa, Lisa Garner Santa, Belinda Kleinhans, Rob Stewart, Katie Langford, John Masselli, Suzanne Tapp

#### **Members Not Present:**

Cindy Akers, Andrew Stetson, Ameri Gurley

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Rob moved to approve the minutes from October 27<sup>th</sup>; Charles seconded. The council approved the October minutes.

Rob asked to correct the teaching excellence definition in the November minutes. Mitzi moved to approve the minutes from November 17<sup>th</sup> with corrections; David seconded. The council approved the minutes from November.

#### **Lawrence Schovanec Teaching Development Scholarships**

Kevin Wass, the upcoming committee chair, reported on the process and shared that the full scholarship amount of \$9,000 was awarded this year to eight applicants. The committee requested that a few more details be added to the application and that the applications and reviews remain accessible to the committee after reviews were submitted. Kevin shared that some applications were too brief and needed to be more in-depth. Kevin noted that the strongest applications were ones that went into detail about conference specifics and how that would connect to their teaching and read more like grant proposals. With permission of applicants, the committee would like past winning applications to be made public for reference. Karen suggested that the committee could hold informational meetings to make expectations more clear and also stated that she will present at Chairs Council in the Spring so that chairs have accurate information about Teaching Academy award criteria. Belinda asked if a certain percentage should be set aside for non-tenure track faculty. Karen recommended that the council take time to look over the current criteria and return to this discussion in January. TLPDC staff can make the requested changes to the online application.

#### **DETA Limit Language**

The council continued the discussion on a possible ten-year re-application limit for past recipients. Council members noted the importance of allowing time for departmental change and setting the ten-year limit to ensure that applications from past recipients would be updated and contain new data. The council agreed on the following statement:

*“to provide a 10 year limit for departments who have already received the award effective beginning at the 2024-2025 cycle.”*

Belinda moved to approve the language; Fanni seconded. The council approved the language for the new limit.

### **President's Excellence in Faculty Peer Mentorship Award**

Lisa shared about the work of the Faculty Mentorship Academy co-directors in securing the award funding to recognize faculty peer mentors. She shared the draft language for the award and process. The council briefly discussed the name and criteria and agreed on the following language:

President's Excellence in Faculty Peer Mentorship Award

Timing: To the Office of Faculty Success by February 13, 2024

Criteria: To recognize faculty for exemplary and sustained activity in faculty peer mentorship at Texas Tech University as evidenced through both official and unofficial mentorship roles along with demonstrated success of mentees. Candidates show an ongoing commitment to continued education in mentorship. Tenured faculty or faculty with continuing appointment and three years of documented mentorship service recognized by peers may be considered.

Nominations: Nominated by faculty, chair, or Dean.

Procedure: A committee comprised of the Assistant Vice Provost for Faculty Success and engaged faculty and administrators from various TTU colleges and schools reviews, rates the nominations according to pre-determined criteria, and recommends the highest-ranking nominee as the award recipient to the Provost.

Fanni moved to accept the language as amended; Lisa seconded. The council approved the language for the President's Excellence in Faculty Peer Mentorship Award. Lisa will send this on to the Office of the Provost.

### **Teaching Academy Video**

Mitzi gave a preview of the new Teaching Academy video. The council noted one edit but approved the video. Mitzi will make the edit and announce the video to the Teaching Academy members once it's published.

### **Updates**

1. DETA applications are due on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> by 5pm.
2. December Tea & Teaching: Suzanne shared that attendance was small, but it was an encouraging meeting and conversation for those who were there.

### **Adjourn:**

Rob moved to adjourn the meeting; Mitzi seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Molly Jacobs.