

Teaching Academy Executive Council

Minutes

October 30, 2015

Members Present:

Mario Beruvides, Shane Blum, Joaquin Borrego, Dominick Casadonte, Bill Pasewark, Comfort Pratt, John White, Nancy Soonpaa, Suzanne Tapp, Susan Tomlinson

Members Not Present: Shannon Bichard, Scott Burris, Lisa Garner-Santa

Guest Present: Aliza Wong

Approval of minutes:

Susan Tomlinson moved to approve the minutes from September 18th. Comfort Pratt seconded. All approved.

Welcome:

Bill Pasewark welcomed the members of the Executive Council and guest, Aliza Wong. Aliza Wong was present as a former recipient of the Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award to participate on the selection committee for this year's award.

New Business:

Provost's Council

Bill Pasewark attended and gave brief summary. Steve Balch gave a presentation on behalf of the Institute for Study of Western Civilization. Birgit Green spoke about Academic Engagement and Outreach website. A new website is being developed and a survey is forthcoming. The new website will feature a newsletter. The department is being re-organized and its new focus will be, "Raiders Engage." Darrell James spoke about the new strategic plan, "Texas Tech- New Era of Research." The new focus is summarized as follows:

- Transform culture for research
- Increase enrollment
- Faculty success
- Maximize resources

The results of the "Campus Carry" survey were revealed and will be made public. Briefly stated, of those faculty and staff who answered the survey, there were 300 with concealed handgun licenses and 700 who plan to get one. One-third of the respondents were in favor of campus carry and two-thirds were against.

Date of Lawrence Schovanec Teaching Scholarship Applications

Suzanne Tapp informed the Executive Council of the need to move up the date of the application process for the Lawrence Schovanec Teaching Scholarships. Awarding the scholarships sooner will allow for the awards to be distributed through Travel rather than by an Employee One-Time payment, meaning that fewer taxes will be taken out and the recipients will receive more of their award for use for their conferences. Dominick Casadonte moved that the date for the scholarship application process be moved up. Comfort Pratt seconded. All were in favor.

Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award

It was suggested that the Executive Council needs to establish a policy in regard to conflicts of interest and recusal from committees. Some suggestions were:

- If you write a recommendation letter, you must recuse yourself.
- If a person on a committee is nominated, they must recuse themselves.

This should be added to the Committee Voting Protocol. Dominick Casadonte, Mario Beruvides, and Joaquin Borrego will be responsible for writing the amendment to the protocol and will present this amendment at the November meeting.

The committee then completed the selection process for the Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award. A letter of recommendation will be submitted to the Provost's office by Chair of the Teaching Academy Executive Council, Bill Pasewark.

Old Business:

Wine and Cheese Event- "Spirited" Discussion about Teaching

Bill Pasewark contacted the suggested panelists from previous meeting. All panelists agreed. Bill asked for questions to be submitted ahead of time, in order for panelists to have some idea of what questions will be asked.

Announcements:

Kimberly Leigh passed around a sign-up sheet for upcoming commencement ceremonies.

Meeting Schedule for Fall, 2015:

November 20th

December 4th

Adjourn

Susan Tomlinson motioned to adjourn. Dominick Casadonte seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberly Leigh