

BYLAWS  
of the  
TEACHING ACADEMY  
of  
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
(adopted May 2013)

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization is the Texas Tech University Teaching Academy, which is referred to informally as the “Teaching Academy.”

ARTICLE II – MISSION

The mission of the Teaching Academy is to advocate for teaching excellence, promote service related to the university’s teaching mission, and share knowledge about teaching strategies and their implementation.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 An applicant for the Teaching Academy must meet the following qualifications:  
(a) be full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty, full-time professor of practice, or full-time lecturer who has been at Texas Tech University for a minimum of three years (completed six long semesters), (b) be nominated and seconded by current Teaching Academy members, (c) be committed to promoting teaching improvement throughout the university, and (d) possess evidence of teaching excellence at Texas Tech University.
- 3.2 Teaching Academy membership is limited to 20% of the full-time teaching faculty on all of its campuses.
- 3.3 Applicants must complete the application procedure posted on the Teaching Academy website. New members are selected by the New Member Selection Committee.

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 4.1 Membership
  - 4.1.1 The Executive Council is composed of 14 Teaching Academy members who are elected from the full membership of the Teaching Academy, with two representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, one representative from each of the remaining colleges within Texas Tech University, one representative from the Law School, and two at-large

members. If a member of the Teaching Academy changes roles or responsibilities, such as becoming an administrator or a staff member, this member would be eligible only to serve as an at-large member of the Executive Council or a standing committee, rather than as the representative of a College/School on the Executive Council or a standing committee. Each member shall serve a three-year term. Approximately one third of the Executive Council shall be elected each year. No member of the Executive Council shall serve consecutive full terms, with the exception of the member who is elected to be the Chair-Elect. The Chair-Elect will then fulfill the rotation as Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past-Chair before rotating off the Executive Council.

4.1.2. The immediate Past-Chair of the Executive Council and the current Director of the TLPDC will also serve as full members of the Executive Council. Both the immediate Past-Chair and TLPDC Director may concurrently serve as representatives of their respective Colleges.

4.1.3 The Office of the Provost shall appoint an ex officio liaison to the Executive Council.

4.1.4 In the event of a member of the Executive Council taking a short term leave of absence, the Executive Council shall appoint a temporary replacement from the same college.

#### 4.2 Leadership of the Executive Council

4.2.1 Leadership of the Executive Council will be performed by a Chair-Elect, Chair and Past-Chair. The rotation will begin as the Chair-Elect. The term of service at each position is one year.

4.2.2 The Chair-Elect will be selected by the last meeting of the Executive Council each spring. The Past-Chair is not eligible to be the Chair-Elect.

4.2.3 The duties of the Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past-Chair are outlined in the Executive Council Standing Orders and Job Responsibilities document.

4.2.4 Should the Chair-Elect be unable to serve, a new Chair-Elect will be elected by the Executive Committee. If the Chair is unable to serve, the Chair-Elect may assume the office of Chair and a new Chair-Elect will be elected by the Executive Committee.

#### 4.3 Executive Council Business Meetings

4.3.1 The Executive Council will have monthly business meetings during the academic school year. The Council will consider the current teaching

culture across campus, methods used to evaluate and reward teaching, requests from the Provost's Office, and other appropriate issues. The Council will make recommendations to the Provost relative to the mission

of the Teaching Academy and will endorse/promote programs across the campus that support the mission.

- 4.3.2 The staff assistant for the Teaching Academy will record minutes and submit the minutes to the Chair for presentation at the monthly business meetings.

## ARTICLE V – TEACHING ACADEMY MEETINGS

The Teaching Academy will have at least two full-membership business meetings per year. The fall meeting will be conducted at the conclusion of the Teaching Academy New Member Induction and Teaching Award Ceremony, and the spring meeting will be conducted at the conclusion of the Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award ceremony.

## ARTICLE VI – STANDING COMMITTEES

- 6.1 The Executive Council's standing committees are the New Member Selection Committee, the Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award Selection Committee, the Lawrence Schovanec Teaching Development Scholarship Selection Committee, and the Piper Professor Award Committee.
- 6.2 The Piper Professor Award standing committee consists of five Teaching Academy members appointed by the Executive Council Chair. One appointee needs to be a Piper Professor Award recipient or past university nominee. That role can be met by the existing committee membership, or an outside committee member who meets that criteria may be appointed by the chair of the Executive Council.
- 6.3 The standing committees consist of two representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences, one representative each of from the remaining colleges within Texas Tech University, one representative from the Law School, and two at-large members. The selection of College/School and at-large members of the standing committees will be completed by an election from the full membership of the Teaching Academy. The nominee with the most votes received has the opportunity to accept the nomination. If they chose to decline, the runner-up has the option to accept the nomination. Each committee will operate with a minimum of nine members with one representative elected from each of the colleges. If there is an insufficient number of Teaching Academy members who are current faculty in a particular college to elect a representative for any Teaching Academy committee, then the Teaching Academy will elect one or more "at-large" members of the Teaching Academy to serve on those Standing Committees.

- 6.4 Each member will serve a three-year term. No member shall serve consecutive terms. The three-year terms are staggered so that only one-third of the membership finishes their terms each year. No member of the Executive Council may serve on a standing committee. No member may serve on more than one standing committee at the same time. If any committee member is unable to complete a three-year term, the College's member(s) on the Executive Council will conduct an election for a replacement Teaching Academy member who will complete the unexpired term of service on this committee.
- 6.5 Each standing committee will elect a Chair who will preside over the selection process for one year and may be elected for one additional year. The Chair is elected at the final meeting of the year for each standing committee.
- 6.6 The standing committees will review applications and consider the information supplied with special attention to evidence of sustained teaching excellence and a commitment to promoting teaching improvement at Texas Tech University. For any given year, all applicants will be judged by the same criteria.
- 6.7 The chairs of the standing committees (or designated representatives) will attend an Executive Council meeting to present the results of the selection process.
- 6.8 If the members of the standing committee are in consensus that the selection process could benefit from revision, the chair of that committee (or delegated representative) will present suggested revisions to the Executive Council for further action.

#### ARTICLE VII – AD-HOC COMMITTEES

The Executive Council may create ad-hoc committees as needed.

#### ARTICLE VIII – CHANCELLOR'S COUNCIL DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

A committee comprised of the Executive Council of the Teaching Academy, the president of the Faculty Senate, and a previous Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award winner (appointed by the chair of the Executive Council of the Teaching Academy) will conduct the Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award selection process and make recommendations for revising the process as specified in OP 32.13.

#### ARTICLE IX – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

In the absence of any provision to the contrary in the Bylaws, all business meetings of the Teaching Academy and the Executive Council, and of appointed committees, are governed by the parliamentary rules and usages contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

## ARTICLE X– AMENDMENTS

Article X Proposed amendments to these Bylaws may be initiated by any Teaching Academy member and must be submitted in writing to Executive Council. The proposed amendments may be adopted by a majority vote of the Teaching Academy Executive Council members present.

## ARTICLE XI – ADOPTION

Adoption of these Bylaws was conducted using email vote sent to the entire membership.