

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes

March 3, 2023

Members Present:

Lisa Garner Santa (Chair), David Roach, Rob Stewart, Dominick Casadonte, Tara Stevens, Nancy Soonpaa, Ameri Gurley, Courtney Meyers, Mitzi Ziegner, Rob Stewart, Andrew Stetson, Katie Langford, Suzanne Tapp

Members Not Present:

John Masselli, Karen Alexander, Susan Tomlinson

Approval of Minutes:

Rob Stewart made a correction on the January minutes. He noted that his name needed to be added to "Members Not Present". Rob moved to approve the minutes from January 27, 2023 and the correction. The council approved the minutes.

Departmental Excellence in Teaching Award Committee Report

Jeffrey Harper gave a report on the selection committee's results from February. The committee reviewed five applications and selected Community, Family & Addiction Sciences. The committee also extended their review time with approval from the Provost to include an application from the Waco regional campus. The Waco application was strong but the committee kept their original selection.

The Waco application required permission from the Provost due to its inclusion of the whole campus and not just one department/area. The council discussed the need for clarifying language for eligibility and Lisa offered the following language:

Non-traditional units, including interdisciplinary units, not clearly defined as a "department" or "school" in their title, must clearly articulate why and how they are considered "equivalent." Past successful examples include the Honors College. Questions regarding eligibility concerns should be directed to the Chair of the Teaching Academy for discussion by the Executive Council no later than two months before the application due date.

The council discussed this wording and Lisa will provide an edited statement by email for a council vote.

Peer Support System for Student Evaluations

Alec Cattell gave a report from his work with Sarah Wagner on the Student Evaluation Committee and shared a proposal for the Student Evaluation Mentorship Initiative. This initiative would be a way to support faculty as they receive their student evaluations and provide a mentor for them to help sort through constructive and unconstructive student feedback. The council offered feedback and were interested in this proposal.

Critical Teaching Behaviors Framework Updates

Lisa met virtually with the framework authors and thought it would be beneficial to connect them with the Evaluation of Teaching Initiative subcommittees. Dom suggested that we invite them as speakers at the Burns Conference to give a keynote, then a hands-on workshop with the subcommittee leaders.

Dom moved that the council should invite Claudia Cornejo Happel and Lauren Barbeau to be the speakers at the 2023 Burns Conference; Mitzi seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Spring Commencement Representatives

- Friday, May 12th at 11:00pm (Arts & Sciences): Volunteer needed
- Friday, May 12th at 3:00pm (Rawls, Davis): *Courtney Meyers*
- Friday, May 12th at 6:30pm (Graduate School): *Tara Stevens*
- Saturday May 13th at 9:00am (Honors, Architecture, Talkington, University Studies, Education, Human Sciences): *Mitzi Ziegner*
- Saturday May 13th at 1:00pm (Engineering, MCom): *Ameri Gurley*

Open Mic, Open Table Event

This event was originally scheduled for early March but was postponed. Lisa suggested that the Teaching Academy could be one of the organizing partners to help publicize the event.

Courtney moved to include the Teaching Academy as a partner for the Open Mic, Open Table event; Dom seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Updates:

1. Teaching Academy New Member applications are open
 - Applications are due March 21st
 - Nomination/Recommendation letters are due March 31st
2. Tea & Teaching Gathering
 - Wednesday, April 5th from 2:00-3:00
3. The Path to Equity: Yoga and Action
 - April 6th and 7th at the Cotton Court Hotel

Adjourn:

Lisa adjourned the meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Molly Jacobs.