

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes

April 26, 2024

Members Present:

Karen Alexander, David Roach, Lisa Garner Santa, Belinda Kleinhans, Katie Langford, Charles Crews, Ameri Gurley, Nancy Soonpaa, John Masselli, Suzanne Tapp

Members Not Present:

Andrew Stetson, Fanni Coward, Mitzi Ziegner, Cindy Akers, Rob Stewart

Approval of Minutes:

Katie moved to approve the minutes from March 22nd; Ameri seconded.

Teaching Academy New Member Selection Committee Report

Joel Velasco gave a report from the New Member Selection Committee. The committee received twelve applications. Two of the applications did not fit the application guidelines and were not considered. The committee reviewed the accepted applications and selected six for membership. On behalf of the committee, Joel recommended that the 10% given for the support letters on the Info Ready reviews include the nomination and recommendation letter. He also asked if a standard needed to be set for only allowing the support letters to come from those within the applicant's department. The council had a detailed discussion about this as well as how applications should be considered and how to help applicants avoid disqualification due to incorrect formatting. The council discussed how strict the committee should be when reviewing applicants. It was also noted that membership may begin to decrease as many members begin to retire. Council members gave several solutions and this topic will be tabled for the fall. The council will bring this back up in August to vote on new procedures.

Piper Professor Award Committee

In August, the council appointed an adhoc committee to select a Piper Professor Award nominee. Charles moved to add this selection committee as a standing committee in the bylaws; Katie seconded. The council made an amendment to include details about the committee. This committee will be comprised of five Teaching Academy members appointed by the Executive Council Chair to serve a full term. One appointee needs to be a piper recipient or a 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 Executive Council Chair. Charles approved the amendment. All voted in favor and the motion passed. This motion will be brought to the Spring business meeting for a vote by Teaching Academy members present.

Executive Council Chair Elect

Ameri Gurley, Belinda Kleinhans, and Mitzi Ziegner were nominated for the position of Chair Elect. The council conducted an email ballot for the Chair Elect and Mitzi Ziegner was elected. Mitzi decided to withdraw and the council will conduct another election via email. The Chair Elect will be named at the Spring business meeting.

Student Evaluation Subcommittee

Suzanne Tapp gave a report on the Student Evaluation Subcommittee's work. The Faculty Senate voted to accept the new set of questions and the new name (Student Course Feedback). SGA made an official resolution to coordinate a campaign for student feedback to bring awareness to students about the purpose and confidentiality of the feedback process. The new questions, name, and awareness campaign will begin in Fall 2024. Several members of the committee will continue to assess the feedback data in the following years.

John M. Burns Conference Keynote Speaker

Suzanne presented three themes for the Burns Conference in the fall along with suggested speakers.

Theme 1: Alternative grading strategies with Josh Eyler.

Theme 2: the post COVID environment and student and faculty wellness. This topic would align with the QEP theme for next year.

Theme 3: Teaching in turbulent times with the University of Michigan CRTL Players.

Suzanne will send details about each theme to the council and members can choose a theme via email.

Adjourn:

Karen Alexander adjourned the meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Molly Jacobs.

