

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes

April 25, 2025

Members Present:

Nancy Soonpaa, Ameri Gurley, Jeffrey Harper, Shane Blum, Karen Alexander, Suzanne Tapp, Belinda Kleinhans, Katie Langford, Cindy Akers, Charles Crews

Members Not Present:

Fanni Coward, David Roach, Andrew Stetson, Rob Stewart, John Masselli

Welcome and Group Activity:

Nancy Soonpaa led the council in a group breathing exercise to open the meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

Jeffrey Harper moved to approve the minutes from March 28th; Ameri Gurley seconded. The council approved the March minutes.

New Member Selection Committee Report:

Joel Velasco chaired the selection committee this year and informed the council that sixteen applicants were selected. He noted that this is higher than average and the committee took feedback from last year's process.

Joel made some recommendations for the council to consider:

- A 20-page limit total without limits on sections
- AI use is allowed as long as the applicant is transparent
- Allow more flexibility on the evaluation score page

The council will consider these recommendations and make changes as needed.

Burns Conference Speaker:

Ann Austin has agreed to speak at the Burns Conference in the fall and the date is set for October 17th. Dr. Austin will give a keynote on new approaches to teaching evaluation. This will be a continuation of the work of the Teaching Evaluation Initiative.

The council had also recommended Cate Denial as a speaker at the previous meeting. She has agreed to speak at the ATLC in the spring on February 20th.

Announcements:

Suzanne Tapp shared an update on RaiderCanvas. Faculty recently had the option to opt in to Blackboard for summer courses and many chose to use RaiderCanvas. TTU Online currently has forty trainings scheduled with department groups over the next six weeks. Suzanne encouraged the council to talk to their colleagues about the changes and promote the trainings.

Adjourn:

Karen Alexander moved to adjourn the meeting; Charles Crews seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Molly Jacobs.