

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes February 23, 2024

Members Present:

Karen Alexander, Nancy Soonpaa, Fanni Coward, David Roach, Mitzi Ziegner, Lisa Garner Santa, Belinda Kleinhans, Katie Langford, Andrew Stetson, Ameri Gurley, Suzanne Tapp

Members Not Present:

Cindy Akers, Charles Crews, Rob Stewart, John Masselli

Approval of Minutes:

David moved to approve the minutes from January 26th; Ameri seconded. The council approved the January minutes.

Lawrence Schovanec Teaching Development Scholarships Discussion

Belinda moved to continue the discussion previously tabled in December about designating a certain percentage of the scholarships for non-tenure track faculty; Katie seconded.

The council considered the benefits of this designation and its complications. The council did not reach an agreement and Karen called to dispose of the motion. All opposed and the motion failed. The council would like to continue with a different approach. Katie moved to include the following clarifying language to the scholarship website:

“This scholarship may afford opportunities for faculty members with limited travel funding to attend a conference of this nature.”

Mitzi seconded the motion. All approved and the motion passed.

Teaching Excellence Definition Updates

Suzanne reminded the council of the recently endorsed definition of teaching excellence. The definition has since then received endorsement from the president, provost, associate deans, and academic council. The initiative will seek endorsements from faculty senate, chair council, and SGA in the near future.

Karen asked the sub-committee chairs from the initiative to reconvene and give a report at the Spring business meeting.

Teaching Academy Membership Discussion

Suzanne asked the council to discuss how this new definition could better align with the requirements for the Teaching Academy membership application. She would like to have a draft of an updated application ready for the Spring business meeting. The council discussed several options for how to update or re-order the application requirements. Suzanne agreed to create a draft based on the discussion and have it ready for the next Executive Council meeting.

Adjourn:

Mitzi moved to adjourn the meeting; Belinda seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Molly Jacobs.