

## **Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes March 28, 2025**

### **Members Present:**

Nancy Soonpaa, Jeffrey Harper, Shane Blum, Karen Alexander, Suzanne Tapp, Belinda Kleinhans, Katie Langford, Charles Crews, John Masselli

### **Members Not Present:**

Fanni Coward, David Roach, Ameri Gurley, Cindy Akers, Andrew Stetson, Rob Stewart

### **Welcome and Group Activity:**

Nancy Soonpaa led the council in a group activity called “one good thing” and asked members to share a positive experience. This activity could be done with students to help reframe perspective.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Suzanne Tapp moved to approve the minutes from February 28<sup>th</sup>; John Masselli seconded. The council approved the February minutes.

### **President’s Excellence in Faculty Peer Mentorsing Award:**

Barbie Chambers gave a report from the award selection committee. The committee met mid February and selected a recipient. Barbie noted that the committee would like to add more details to the award materials and criteria to help make the process more transparent and streamlined. The council was in support of updates the committee will make for next year.

### **Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award Updates:**

The council spent time reviewing their proposed updates to OP 32.13 and voted on several items.

- Belinda Kleinhans moved to remove the coversheet from OP 32.13 Appendix A; Suzanne Tapp seconded. All council members voted in favor and the motion passed.
- The council discussed a prescriptive model for the application materials which gives each section a page limit and provides clearer instruction for each section. The council made last minute changes to wording regarding support letters, giving the section for letters a three page limit instead of a three letter limit. Members also made adjustments to the wording for optional materials. Charles Crews moved to update the application materials to this new prescriptive model; Karen Alexander seconded. All council members voted in favor and the motion passed
- Karen Alexander moved to adopt the new scoring rubric that aligns with the definition of teaching excellence; Suzanne Tapp seconded. All council members voted in favor and the motion passed.

### **Voting Protocol:**

In February, the DETA selection committee made the recommendation to remove the “Point of Clarification” in the voting protocol, which provided a weight for each document in the DETA application. John Masselli moved to remove the point of clarification; Suzanne Tapp seconded. All council members voted in favor and the motion passed.

**Burns Conference Speaker Suggestions:**

Suzanne Tapp shared two speaker suggestions for the next Burns Conference. She presented the themes of “Transforming College Teaching Evaluation” with speaker Ann Austin and “A Pedagogy of Kindness” with speaker Cate Denial. Council members were interested in both but had a preference for Ann Austin. Suzanne will reach out to inquire about availability.

**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; John Masselli seconded. The meeting was adjourned.