

Teaching Academy Executive Council Minutes

November 16th, 2018

Members Present:

Bob McDonald, Ali Nejat, Nathan Collie, Katie Langford, Upe Flueckiger, Lisa Garner Santa, Angela Lumpkin, Comfort Pratt (Chair)

Members Not Present:

Suzanne Tapp, Brie Sherwin, Mark Webb, Scott Burris, Mitzi Lauderdale

Approval of Minutes:

Nathan Collie motioned to approve the previous meeting's minutes and Angela Lumpkin seconded.

Welcome & Introduction of visitors:

Comfort Pratt welcomed the Council and introduced visitor Shane Blum, chair of the Peer Review sub-committee.

Peer Review of Teaching Survey Report

Shane gave a report of the survey sent out by the sub-committee in the spring. He stated again that the purpose of the committee was not to dictate or create a new O.P., but only to provide benchmarks and a list of best practices. They hope to help create consistency and are working with the Provost's Office to provide optional templates and forms.

Shane presented a summary of all the comments. Some highlights from the survey include agreement on post-observation meetings and the need for checklists and letters for reviewers. The committee would like to create a webpage as a resource for colleges and departments and there is potential for Teaching Academy involvement in the review process for the different units.

The survey was sent to the whole Teaching Academy, but they received only thirteen responses. The Council agreed that the survey should be sent out again in February in order to generate a larger response.

Nathan Collie suggested that the Council work with Teaching Academy members in their colleges and departments to promote the importance of the survey.

Angela Lumpkin suggested the use of data to give context on the importance of the peer review process.

Katie Langford suggested that the new potential guidelines for peer review allow for variety due to the differences in each department.

Many noted the lack of emphasis placed on teaching in the colleges, and Shane and Comfort suggested that the survey and its importance should be promoted at the Provost Council and Chair Council.

Comfort thanked Shane and asked him to let his committee know that the Council appreciates the work they are doing and will support their efforts.

Updates:*Provost Council*

Comfort gave an update on the recent Provost Council. She shared about the Signature Educational Experience initiative, the Office of Communication and Marketing's new promotion of faculty achievements, the conversation around creating a more effective Emergency Action Plan, and the faculty development leave announcement by Senior Vice Provost Rob Stewart coming in February.

Comfort spoke with Communication and Marketing director Chris Cook about featuring the Teaching Academy and the importance of promoting teaching excellence on campus. The Council agreed that this would be beneficial to good teaching at the university.

Changes in the Teaching Academy Calendar

Comfort mentioned the changes made last month to several award dates on the calendar. The new timeline will allow for Teaching Academy activities to be completed within the faculty on-duty period, that is, between the faculty on-duty date in August (usually the third week), and the Monday after spring commencement.

College-Level Activities for Visibility and Impact

Comfort encouraged the Council to be involved with their colleges to promote the Teaching Academy.

Teaching Academy Survey on Visibility and Impact

Comfort gave the Council a report of the current response to the survey. There have been 59 responses and the final report will be discussed at the December Council meeting.

Teaching Academy Commencement Representatives

Comfort informed the Council that she will send reminders to the commencement representatives for the December ceremonies.

She also said that the remaining agenda items will be discussed at the December meeting

Adjourn:

Bob McDonald motioned to adjourn the meeting and Upe Flueckiger seconded.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Molly Jacobs.