The Ohio State University Academy of Teaching
Executive Council Meeting
September 19, 2011
2:30–4 p.m.
Room 210A, Youkin Success Center

Present: Caroline Breitenberger
        Kevin Boyle
        Joseph Donnemeyer
        Alan Kalish
        Jennie Williams
        Mohamed Yousif (3 p.m.)

Inviting New Members to Join the Executive Council

• Yousif will contact new members.

2011 Fall Reception
Monday, October 17 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Alumni Lounge, The Fawcett Center
Speaker: Dr. Mike Boehm, Vice Provost for Academic Planning

• A save-the-date reminder went out in August.
• Jennie will email the invitations and open registration this week.
• Yousif will make opening remarks and introduce Mike.

6th Annual Mini-Conference
Friday, May 4, 2012
Topic: Enacting Semesters: How Will the Semester Conversion Affect Teaching?

• Proposed topics/sessions/speakers
  o Evaluation of teaching and learning/program review
  o Teaching in the rhythm of the semester (time management) with UCAT
  o Panel of experienced campuses (e.g., Otterbein)
  o Co-chairs of CAA – ask for best model of new program
  o Ann Christy
• We will continue to consider the theme of our 20th anniversary
• Richard Blatti (music entertainment at lunch)
• Founder's Award
  o We will be presenting this award to the Alumni Association Board of Directors. We will invite the president of the Board to come and accept the award.
  o Jennie will invite President Gee to present the award at lunch.
• Jennie will find out what it would cost to have the event at the Longaberger. Perhaps the Alumni Association could offer us a discount based on our affiliation.
Proposed Winter Reception for Academic Administrators

• Based on the proposal made at our last meeting, Alan will talk with Susan Williams to discuss how we might approach this idea.
• Alan will ask Susan whether Briggs might be able to coordinate the logistics of the event if we are to hold it in the winter since Jennie will be on maternity leave. If he is unable to do so, we may have to move the time frame.
• Proposed topics of the reception include:
  o How do we evaluate teaching for tenure & promotion?
  o How do we evaluate teaching as part of the hiring process?
  o What departments do a particularly good job of this?

Talking About Teaching

• Editor Joe Donnermeyer has suggested the following topics/authors for the 6th edition:
  o Brian Joseph – essay working off Founder’s Award
  o Steve Rissing – promised an essay this year
  o Ginny Trethewey – Alumni Association – what members remembere about a good teacher
  o GATA winners
  o Consortium of grad students to discuss what it means to be good at being a TA in different teaching contexts
  o Orientation facilitators – Jennie will get email list to Joe
  o Good promotion and tenure statement on teaching
  o Position announcements and assessing candidates
  o Program review
  o Expected learning outcomes for a graduate program
  o What makes a persuasive teaching statement? (Susan Williams)

Founder’s Award

• The Alumni Board will be the recipient
• Since they are a tax exempt organization, we do not have to worry about the tax on a $100+ gift, but we will probably need to reevaluate the award for future recipients.
• Jennie will work out the details of paying for the award.

Campus Campaign in OSUToday

The council agreed that Jennie ought to submit a description of the Academy of Teaching’s Campus Campaign fund to be published in OSUToday’s new column.

Award for Instructors

Alan will try to find out what it would take to move this forward.
Liza Tohr’s New Faculty Award Proposal

Jennie will send an email to the Academy at large with the text of the proposal (copied below). If we receive support and no objections, Yousif will write a letter endorsing the proposal and submit it to OAA.

Next Meeting

We will meet at 2:30 p.m. preceding the Fall Reception at the Fawcett Center. Jennie will find out whether we can get space for the meeting at no additional charge.
Distinguished Faculty Award for Mentoring and Student Development

PROPOSAL:

That a Distinguished Faculty Award be established for faculty who make an extraordinary positive impact on students' lives and careers. It is the intention that the award will gain the same prestige as the other Distinguished Faculty Awards. Criteria are still to be specified, but would require recommendations from current students or alumni and descriptions of involvement with individual students or student groups that have provided unique learning/growth/leadership experiences. This could be presenting at meetings or student organization sponsored events, advising student organizations, working with individuals on learning and growth opportunities, or other types of faculty involvement with students.

The Council on Student Affairs has previous indicated a willingness to serve as the awarding body. This commitment will have to be verified as the award idea becomes a reality.

RATIONALE:

The Distinguished Faculty Awards are held in great esteem and emphasize four important roles of a faculty member: Teaching, Research, University Service, and Diversity Enhancement. However, the University does not currently recognize with an award the importance of faculty involvement in student success outside of the classroom.

Creating a new award that specifically recognizes the out-of-classroom efforts of faculty members would provide nominators an opportunity to recognize those faculty that make concerted co-curricular and extra-curricular efforts to impact students. This would be a tangible representation of the University Leadership's belief in the importance of these activities.

The effort and time faculty at Ohio State invest in students move well beyond the traditional model of one-on-one mentoring. Thejudging process for this award would consider a rich array of activities as mentoring. Advising student organizations, participating in programs for student development such as fireside chats, or the London Honors program, or panel discussions or seminars put on by student groups are just a few examples of the many ways faculty at Ohio State impact students, and they can all be considered mentoring opportunities. In these examples, students are exposed to new ideas and cultures, are challenged in their thinking, and are often given the chance to develop important leadership skills in order to pull-off a campus wide program.

REQUEST:

I hope that the Academy of Teaching members will support this proposal and socialize the idea with their colleagues. I think it is important to recognize that this could significantly change the awarding discussions around the Distinguished Teaching award. It is my understanding that often Teaching Award discussions include the mentoring activities described above. If this award is created, the expectation would be a re-centering of the Teaching Award around in-the-class room or classroom related activities, while this award would encompass the extra efforts that are not part of the traditional curriculum. This reason in particular is why I want to make sure we have the Academy’s support before moving forward.
With Academy support, our next steps would be getting support from the administration, working on a funding/fundraising plan and firming up awarding criteria and process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Liza Toher.1

Alumna, 2006 BS, 2010 MS