The Ohio State University Academy of Teaching
Executive Council Meeting
October 17, 2011
2:30–3:30 p.m.
Madison Room, Fawcett Center

Present: Richard Blatti (guest, 3:15 p.m.)
        Caroline Breitenberger
        Wayne Carlson
        Joseph Donnermeyer
        Alan Kalish (3:15 p.m.)
        Jennie Williams
        Mohamed Yousif

2011 Fall Reception
• To be held directly following this meeting.
• Yousif shared the notes he’ll be using as his introduction.
• Discussion about Mike Boehm’s talk and potential questions with which we might engage him.

Winter Reception for Academic Administrators
• Susan Williams suggested to Alan that we should get in touch with Anne Massaro because she is already doing similar programs.
• Wayne Carlson mentioned coinciding the reception with a regular meeting of the Council of Deans. It is coordinated by Joe Alutto’s assistant (Crystal Garrett). They meet the second Tuesday of every month. The group consists of 15 college deans, regional campus deans, Vice Provosts. Wayne will get in touch with Crystal to discuss this possibility.

Teaching Award for Non-Tenure Track Faculty
• Susan is in favor of the award and wants to move forward soon. A committee must be formed to set criteria.

Liza Tohr’s Proposal to Create a New Faculty Award
• Nineteen out of twenty-one Academy members who responded to our poll gave their support for this award.
• Susan Williams gave her blessing as long as it does not dilute the honor of the AADT nor limit consideration of the full range of teaching practices.
• It makes sense for Student Life/the Council on Student Affairs to have their own award, but it would not be on the same level as the Distinguished Teaching Awards.

6th Annual Mini-Conference
• Date is set for May 11, 2012.
• Jennie will set the location and invite President Gee to present the award
• Caroline reminded us about the topics we have discussed. We have not yet lined up any official speakers.

Talking About Teaching, Volume VI
• Joe Donnermeyer is confident that we will have plenty of submissions this year.

Founder’s Award
• To be given to the Alumni Board.
• Yousif would like to form a committee for the selection of future awards.
OSUToday launches bi-weekly Campus Campaign gifts feature

Starting Thursday (9/8), OSUToday will begin featuring a series of stories about the impact of faculty and staff giving, which will run every other week. With just over 11,000 faculty and staff donors to more than 2,000 funds there are many stories to tell. Each piece will feature one or two funds that faculty and staff are supporting in a college or office and provide links to both the area and the Campus Campaign website for additional information.

Throughout the year, the Campus Campaign office and fiscal offices across campus receive requests from faculty and staff asking how their gifts are being used. These features will highlight some of these faculty and staff "favorites" by providing information about how the fund is currently being used as well as anticipated needs and plans for the future.

If you are interested in having a particular fund featured, send items to Tina Thome, mailto:thome.3@osu.edu for consideration.
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. The judging 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