The Ohio State University Academy of Teaching
Executive Council Meeting
May 30, 2012
10:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Room 211, Younkin Success Center

Present: Caroline Breitenberger (via Skype)
        Alan Kalish
        Connie Wanstreet
        Jennie Williams
        Mohamed Yousif

Preliminary Review/Assessment of the 6th Annual Mini-Conference

In general, the conference seemed successful. The major complaint was that sessions were not interactive enough. Perhaps for the next conference, we can encourage presenters to engage the audience in more of a workshop-style format. There was also some trouble with being able to hear speakers. This might be a result of Ann Christy having taken off her jacket with the attached lapel microphone.

New Members of the Executive Council

• All current Executive Council members’ terms expire in 2013, except for Caroline who will be returning as the chair. We should recruit at least 4 new members.
• Yousif will reach out to regional campus members and suggest that we Skype them in for meetings so that they do not need to drive to the Columbus campus.
• Jennie will contact Darcy Granello who expressed tentative interest in the past.
• Current Executive Council members could look through the list of recipients and reach out to individuals who we know. Jennie will send out an Excel spreadsheet of members.
• The Fall Reception may be a good time to recruit.

Fall Reception

Yousif invited Vice Provost Valerie Lee to be our keynote speaker, and she has accepted as of the time these notes are being written. Jennie will coordinate a date with her for a Monday during the Autumn term. Jennie will also secure the location.

7th Mini-Conference (2013)
Proposed Date: Monday, March 25, 2013

• We reviewed the topics suggested in the current year’s mini-conference evaluations, but we decided to stick with the topic we’d originally come up with: “Teaching the
Difficult.” (UCAT may address some of the suggested topics in their own events next year.)

- Potential speakers include:
  - Lonnie and/or Ellen Thompson
  - Susan Fisher
  - Joe Donnermeyer
  - Decoding the Disciplines speakers from Indiana University

- The theme of the conference will be teaching difficult subject matter in terms of politics, science, religion, and “bottleneck” material.

- Yousif will contact President Gee’s office to see if we can get it on his calendar.

- We will select a co-chair after we have gained some new members of the executive council.

**Talking About Teaching**

Tabled: We await an update from Joe Donnermeyer who is presently out of the country.

**Founder’s Award**

- Jennie will send out a call for nominations for the 2013 Founder’s Award to current Academy members, people who have recently interacted with UCAT, OSUToday, and department chairs and deans.

- We may want to speak with Legal Affairs to see whether there is a way around the tax policy for awards over $100. Otherwise, we may need to change the award so that it costs less money (e.g., using scarlet and gray pigments instead of gold leaf).

**New Business**

Alan announced that the Provost’s office is sponsoring a new university award for distinguished teaching by a lecturer (non-regular faculty). Nominations will be accepted through a process that will be unified and parallel to the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching. The prize will be $4200 in cash, given to up to three recipients per year. A committee that includes Alan and a host of other interest parties are working out the logistics.