



Senate Teaching & Learning Committee

Annual Report 2015 – 2016

Teaching and Learning Committee

Submitted by: Katie Greer, Co-Chair

Nic Bongers, Co-Chair

Date: April 26, 2016

2015-16 Teaching and Learning Committee Members:

Katie Greer, Co-Chairperson (2013-2015)

Nic Bongers, Co-Chairperson (2016-2018)

Judith Ableser (ex-officio, non-voting)

Cynthia Carver (2013-2015)

John Cebelak (2015-2018)

Mary Dereski (2013-2016)

Joanne Freed (2014-2017)

Greg Giberson (2016-2018)

Katie Greer (2013-2016)

Mark Isken (2014-2017)

Kasaundra Tomlin (2013-2015)

Ali Woerner (2014-2017)

There are four primary activities of the Teaching and Learning Committee: 1) to make recommendations of one full-time faculty member and one part-time faculty member for the Teaching Excellence/Excellence in Teaching Awards; 2) to recommend allocations of the educational development grant funds; 3) to publish the committee newsletter, "Insights and Ideas for Teaching and Learning"; and 4) to sponsor faculty luncheons/workshops to promote outstanding teaching and learning practices.

The co-chairs of this committee have noticed President Hynd reference the overabundance of senate committees on this campus, and how they are at peak levels compared to other institutions. Historically, this committee was formed years before the Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL) department was established on campus. Now that CETL is established on campus, this committee has not revisited its charge. There are some primary



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activity overlap between this committee and the CETL department. The overlaps bring to question the current existence of this committee. As a recommendation, we agreed that our senate charge should be revisited to include more or different tasks. In effort to keep this campus efficient and mindful of tasks, charges, and budgets, the entire committee has agreed to report this issue.

The 2015 – 2016 Committee Meetings

The committee met six times during the 2015-2016 academic year, approximately once a month beginning in October.

Teaching Excellence Award and Excellence in Teaching Awards: The call for nominations were publicized by sending e-mails to faculty and staff, on our OU website, through a banner in the OC, through flyers placed around the library and CETL, and in the Fall Newsletter produced by the Committee. The nominations and document submission was completed online. Please refer to Appendix I for the call for nominations example.

2015 Teaching Excellence Award Nominees: Tenure/Tenure Track Nominees

NAME	Department
Aldona Pobutsky	Modern Languages
Amanda Burgess-Proctor	Criminal Justice
Amy Banes-Berceli	Biology
Angela Kaiser	Social work
Anna Spagnuolo	Math
Annette Gilson	Creative Writing
Anthony Francis	Education
Courtney Donoghue	Cinema studies
Cristian Cantir	Political Science
Daniel Lorca	Modern Languages
Eileen Johnson	Org Leadership
Erik Fredericks	Computer Science



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Jeffrey Chapman	English
John Krauss	Physical therapy
Jon Carroll	Sociology, etc.
Kevin Laam	English
Kristin Landis-Piwowar	Biomedical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Sciences
Laila Guessous	Engineering
Lazlo Liptak	Math/Stats
Melissa Hoag	MTD
Michael Latcha	ME
Michael Vaughan	Cinema studies
Mozhgon Rajaei	Health Sciences
Nicole Asmussen	Political Science
Patricia Wren	Health Sciences
Rachel Smydra	English
Sanela Martic	Chemistry
Subramaniam Ganesan	ECE
Suzanne Spencer-Wood	Anthropology
Thomas Raffel	Bio sciences
Susan Evans	Art
Alan Epstein***	Political Science
Doris Plantus***	English
Edward Hoepfner	English
Phyllis White***	MTD
Vanessa Stauffer***	English



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2015 Excellence in Teaching Nominee: Non-Tenure Track

Name:	Department
Amy Spearman	English
Charles Rinehart	WHIP
Christina Tasco	Dance
Christopher Apap	English
Diane Noack	Nursing
Donna Free	MACC
Helena Riha	Linguistics
Holly Greiner-Hallman	Biology
Holly Walker Cote	Spanish
Jessica Koppen	Chemistry
Kitty Dubin	Theater
Megan Widman	Social work
Sherry Perdue	Writing
Stephanie Pizzo	Music
Tara Gardner	Modern Languages
Thomas Ott	Chemistry
*** = previous winner - not eligible	

2016 Teaching Excellence Award Winner: Anthony Tuf Francis

2016 Excellence in Teaching Award Winner: Helena Riha



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Educational Development Grants: Grants are issued on a rolling basis, with no set deadline, as per changes made last year. The 2016 Call for Proposals can be found at <http://www.oakland.edu/TLCommittee>. Five proposals were received, with two deemed to be outside of the grant guidelines. The three which were funded were:

- #1: Teresa Benz, Environmental Justice/Toxic Tour of Detroit support
- #2: Christina Moore, Great Lakes Teaching and Learning Conference
- #3: Christopher Wilson, Modalities & Therapeutic Intervention Equipment

Newsletters and Website: This year, the Teaching and Learning Committee newsletter was published online in the fall semester. The newsletter was designed and developed by John Cebelak.

The website was updated throughout the year by Katie Greer, co-chair.

Teaching Excellence Nominees Luncheon: The Committee sponsored a luncheon in honor of the teaching excellence and excellence in teaching awards nominees. This took place on March 18, 2016. Katie Greer and Nic Bongers, with the help from various committee members and administrative support from CETL, organized the luncheon. Nic Bongers compiled nominee's pictures and developed a power point presentation that was set up to auto slide every seven (7) seconds as an infinite loop during the luncheon. Each nominee was given a framed/signed certificate for their nomination.

Workshops: The committee co-sponsored a special session highlighting and celebrating 2014 Teaching Excellence Award winners in November 2015. The Committee also cosponsored the OU-Windsor Teaching and Learning conference being held at OU on May 18-19, 2016 and the eCornucopia Conference which took place Friday, June 10, 2016.

Espace Updates: The committee's espace was thoroughly reorganized and updated by Nic Bongers, co-chair.

Budget: Katie Greer and Nic Bongers requested remaining funding be carried forward for next year and contacted Irene Fox at ext. 2571 and emailed her at fox@oakland.edu.



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Appendix-I

2016 TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Senate Teaching and Learning Committee is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the 2016 Teaching Excellence Awards. Two awards will be made for the 2015-16 academic year: one to a tenure-track or tenured faculty member; another to a non-tenure-track faculty member. Each award includes a cash stipend and will be presented at the Annual Faculty Recognition Luncheon, tentatively scheduled for April 6, 2016.

Nominations may be made by any member of the Oakland University community, including students, faculty, alumni, administrators, and staff. Student nominations are a highly valued component of this process. Faculty may not self-nominate for the Award. Faculty members are encouraged to announce this nomination process in all classes.

To nominate a faculty member, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/teachOU>

The nomination should address the nominee's accomplishments based on the following criteria:

- Excellence in teaching methodology
- Innovation in teaching
- Continued growth and development in teaching



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- Distinction in the ability to stimulate critical thinking and facilitate student understanding
- Inspiring role model to students
- Exemplary service to students and the teaching profession

Nominations will be accepted through **December 7, 2015**. The Teaching & Learning Committee will contact the nominee about how to submit the required materials. Please contact Katie Greer (greer@oakland.edu) for questions regarding the award and John Coughlin if you need technical support with your submission (jcoughli@oakland.edu).

Previous winners and current members of the Teaching & Learning Committee are not eligible for nomination. A plaque showing previous Teaching Excellence Award winners is on display in the lobby of the Kresge Library.

Sincerely,

Katie Greer

(Chair of the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee)