



Senate Teaching & Learning Committee

## **Annual Report 2017-2018**

### **OU Senate Teaching and Learning Committee**

#### **Submitted by:**

Greg Giberson, Co-Chair

Nic Bongers, Co-Chair

Date: July 6, 2018

#### **2017-2018 Teaching and Learning Committee Members:**

Nic Bongers, Co-Chairperson (AP Assembly, 2016-2018)

Greg Giberson, Co-Chairperson (CAS, 2016-2018)

Kasaundra Tomlin (SBA, 2015-2018)

John Cebelak (AP Assembly, 2015-2018)

Sally Tardella (CAS, 2015-2018)

Fabia Ursula Battistuzzi (CAS, 2016-2019)

Melissa McDonald (CAS, 2016-2019)

Victoria Lucia (SOM, 2016-2019)

Elizabeth Shesko (CAS 2017-2020)

Amanda Hess (KL 2017-2020)

Robert Uptegraff (SBA 2017-2020)

Rajee Mozhgon (2017-2020)

Austin Murphy (SBA 2018)

Judith Ableser (ex-officio, non-voting)



Senate Teaching & Learning Committee

**Introduction:**

There are three 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 sponsor faculty luncheons/workshops to promote outstanding teaching and learning practices.

During the previous academic year (2016-2017), the committee spent a good deal of its time discussing the committee charge given there was broad agreement that the charge, as written, was ambiguous and should be revised given the overlap between its charge and the work of CETL. In a spring 2017 meeting with the Senate Steering Committee, the co-chairs of the TLC were reassured that the charge still fit with Senate’s goals for the committee. During the 2017-2018 academic year, the committee focused primarily on improving the nomination process for the Teaching Excellence Awards as well as the review and selection process for award winners. We also established a new teaching excellence award for online teaching.

Below is a summary of the work of the committee during the 2017-2018 academic year.

**The 2017-2018 Committee Meetings**

The committee met six times during the 2017-2018 academic year:

- October 2, 2017
- November 13, 2017
- December 5, 2017
- January 29, 2018
- February 26, 2018
- March 13, 2018
- April 11, 2018

**Teaching Excellence Awards:** Nominations for the TEA is now open and available to the OU community year round. Historically, nominations were only accepted in the fall. We hope this change will increase the number of nominees from winter and summer semesters.

**2017-2018 Eligible Teaching Excellence Award Nominees: Tenured/Tenure Track**

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Department</i>
Galina Tirnanic	AAH
George Milne	HIS
Henri Gooren	SOC
Jacob Becker	SOC



Senate Teaching & Learning Committee

Jennifer Matthews	SEHS
Julia Smith	SEHS
Karen Dunn	NUR
Meaghan Barry	AAH
Michael Pytlik	RS
Randal Westrick	BIO
Samuel Rosenthal	LIN
Shadi Alawneh	ECE
Subramaniam Ganesan	ECE
Susan McCarty	ENG

**2017-2018 Eligible Teaching Excellence Nominees: Non-Tenure Track**

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Department</i>
Allison Bohn	ENG
Amy Pollard	ENG
Anne Doyle	WRT
Dunha Mikhail	MLL
Jacob Hooker	MTD
Jennifer Kincer-Catallo	MTD
Melissa St. Pierre	WRT
Rebecca Gaydos	LIN
Victoria Shively	MTD
Yael Sela	PSY

**2017-2018 Teaching Excellence Award Tenured/Tenure Track Winner:**

- Jennifer Matthews, SEHS, Department of Counseling

**2017-2018 Teaching Excellence Award Non-Tenure Track Winner:**

- Victoria Shively, MTD, Music Department

Commented [GG1]: I stopped here.

**Educational Development Grants:** Grants are issued on a rolling basis, with no set deadline, as per changes made last year. The 2017-18 Call for Proposals can be found at <http://www.oakland.edu/TLCcommittee>. Five proposals were received and approved:

The following faculty were awarded Educational Development Grants:

- Bridget Varughese, Biology \$700
- Caterina Pieri , Modern Languages \$750
- Mary Craig, Biology \$750



Senate Teaching & Learning Committee

- T.J Jourian, Ed. Leadership \$750
- Sheryl Ruszkiewicz, Writing & Rhetoric \$500
- Emily Spunaugle, Library \$750
- Dikka Berven, Humanities \$267

### Newsletters and Website:

The newsletter was put on hiatus this year, as the committee continued its discussion regarding its future direction. The website was updated throughout the year by Nic Bongers, co-chair.

**Teaching Excellence Nominees Luncheon:** On March 16, 2018 the T&L Committee sponsored a luncheon to honor all of the teaching excellence nominees. With administrative support from CETL, Nic Bongers and a subcommittee of T&L committee members including John Cebelak, Victoria Lucia, and Kasaundra Tomlin, organized the luncheon. Anne Hitt was in attendance. Approximately 30 nominees, committee members, and administrators attended the luncheon. Each nominee was given a signed and framed certificate for their nomination.

**Workshops:** The Committee cosponsored the OU-Windsor Teaching and Learning conference held at Windsor on May 3-4, 2017.

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

**Budget:** Greg Giberson 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.

### New items:

- An **online teaching excellence award** was added as a third Senate Teaching Award. All 3 awards will have the same money value. Nominees may only be considered for 1 award per year when nominated for two simultaneously. Forms to nominate were updated appropriately and clearly.
- The committee voted unanimously to change a rule where previous TEA winners could not win again. We see many winners nominated year after year. The committee voted to allow past winners to be considered again after 5 years for that category.



Senate Teaching & Learning Committee

- The committee would like to request a committee email address @oakland.edu A centralized email would make managing Google Drive files easier, and emails would be easier to manage. Many other committees have their own email, and the committee agreed it would be in this committee's best interests to also have one. TLC@oakland.edu was proposed, although we have not started this request as of yet.
- A plaque to display in the library will need to be purchased for the online teaching excellence awards. We are not sure who updates the nameplates on the plaques, but would like to reach out to have an additional plaque added to that area.



Senate Teaching & Learning Committee

## Appendix

### 2016-17 TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Senate Teaching and Learning Committee is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the 2017 Teaching Excellence Awards. Two awards will be made for the 2016-2017 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 March 28, 2017.

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
- 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, 2016**. The Teaching & Learning Committee will contact the nominee about how to submit the required materials. Please contact Nic Bongers for questions regarding the award and John Coughlin if you need technical support with your submission ([jcoughli@oakland.edu](mailto: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,

Nic Bongers & Greg Giberson  
(Co-Chairs of the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee)