

April 30, 1985

To: Steering Committee  
University Senate

From: H. Burdick *HB*  
Chair, Teaching/Learning Committee

Re: Annual Report

RECEIVED

May 1985

Office of the Provost

1. Membership 1984-85

Fall

Sheldon Appleton	Arts and Sciences Advising (provost designate)
Virginia Blankenship	Psychology
Jean Colburn	Student Affairs (at-large)
Arthur Griggs	Center for Health Sciences
William Headley	Admissions
Will Hoffman	Mathematics
Jerry Marsh	Engineering
Craig Nelson	Student
Margaret Pigott	Rhetoric
Robert Schwartz	SHES
S. Sizemore	Student
Richard Watson	Oakland Schools (at-large)

Winter

Keith McGraw replaces Craig Nelson	Student
Janet Krompart replaces Robert Schwartz	Library SHES
Will Hoffman replaces William Bryant	Mathematics Mod. Languages

Membership needs for 1985-86

All members of the committee have indicated a willingness to serve for 1985-86. However,

1. Will Hoffman will have to be replaced as he is retiring
2. Jerry Marsh was appointed only to the end of 1985
3. Margaret Pigott was appointed only to the end of 1985

2. Activities for 1984-85

a. Education Development Grants

EDF grants are the major business of the Teaching/Learning Committee. A call for proposals was sent out in the Fall 1984 and again in the Winter of 1985 inasmuch as the Committee did not allocate all of its funds in the Fall. The following are the proposals and their grants:

Fall 1984

1. Lizabeth Barclay	"Data Base for Classes on Organizational Behavior"	\$510
2. J. Clatworthy et al	"Internal Review of the BS in HRD"	400
3. Anna Dugan	"Consultant for Designing Nursing Practice"	500
4. Varick Olson	"Post-Baccalaureate Curriculum in Physical Therapy"	400
5. Ronald Tracy	"Development of Instructional Package for Microeconomics"	590
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		\$2400

There were three other proposals which were not funded

Winter 1985

1. Wallis M. Andersen	"Visit to Campus by English Scholar"	\$660
2. B. L. Bhatt	"Attendance at a Course on Heat Transfer"	497
3. Carlo Coppola	"Global Vision"	1150
4. John Cutts	"Attendance at the Milton Institute"	125
5. Helen Schwartz	"Developing Computer Software"	810
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		\$3242

There were four other proposals which were not funded

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year total \$5642

Summary:

There were altogether 17 proposals submitted to the Committee of which 10 were funded (generally less than the amount requested). Although the Committee had \$6000 to dispense for education grants, it did not feel "pressed" by the proposals. The members believed that this was an exceptional year for requests and that in the future, \$6000 will be less than adequate to support the teaching function. The Committee is obviously careful in assigning funds and will not spend its allocation just because it exists.

b. Teaching Learning Seminar Luncheons

There were 8 Seminars conducted under the sponsorship of the Teaching/Learning Committee. Topics ranged from "student apathy" to "Alternatives to the Lecture format". There were approximately 80 faculty who attended and the response was impressively positive. With the few dollars remaining to us after the Educational proposals were funded, we were able to feed interested faculty a meager lunch. The Committee remains committed to the concept of bringing faculty together to discuss and pass along educational insights to one another. We intend to continue the "faculty luncheons" all through the Fall and Winter of next year. The cost will be equivalent to one educational proposal and we think highly worth it. It seems to be the one opportunity for faculty to come together and talk about the one common concern that binds us together across schools and departments. The Committee is very pleased and proud of this innovation.

c. Teaching Excellence Award

The TEA Committee has worked diligently through the year under the chair of Will Hoffman. At this time the Committee has reduced the candidates to the finalists and will soon make this decision. The T/L Committee has received minutes of the TEA Committee and is knowledgeable of their problems and solutions. However, unless there exists a crisis of unmanageable proportions, the TEA Committee operates fairly independently of the mother committee.

d. Meeting with Physically Handicapped Students

In February of 1985 the Committee met with a group of physically handicapped students. The discussion was frank (and critical of the University) and instructive. Two members of the Committee volunteered to produce a document that can be sent to the faculty informing them of some of the problems of the handicapped that are often overlooked. We hope the pamphlet can be produced during the 1985-86 academic year.

3. Work in Progress

a. Teaching Consulting Position

Some four years ago the Teaching/Learning Committee submitted a proposal to the University Senate that would create a position of a Teaching Consultant. The present Committee is reconsidering that proposal which was defeated by the Senate four years ago. There is a strong possibility of the Committee resubmitting the proposal (not until the Winter).

b. Teaching Information Questionnaire

The Committee feels that the faculty is in need of information about its teaching without it being involved with evaluation. The Committee is involved in developing such a form which will be sent to the faculty for their use. This will not involve rulings by the Senate.

4. Recommendation

I believe it is safe to say, even though I am the chair and therefore biased, that the Committee on Teaching/Learning operated effectively during 1984-85. There is no question that such a Committee can get consumed by educational projects and there is much to be done in that regard. But the Committee members are constrained by other commitments and there is no fear that empires will be built in the teaching area. Nevertheless, the Committee feels that the \$6000 is somewhat overdue for a raise and we hope that the Steering Committee will see its way to increasing our budget. There are some small projects the Committee would like to see through to completion that would require a little money, e.g., pamphlet on teaching thoughts and techniques.

The Committee membership appears adequate and representative. We are pleased that we were able to entice Dr. Richard Watson from the Oakland Schools to serve as an at-large member. It may be time to rotate some of the members that have served for more than two consecutive terms. The Committee could use committed members more than simple representation. We would appreciate faculty who have "axes to grind" in the educational field.