

Report of the Committee on Teaching Assistants and Teaching Fellows

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The committee has had two meetings this calendar year. The first meeting occurred on February 24th and all committee members were in attendance. At that meeting, our charge concerning the selection of four Teaching Fellows for an award was reviewed and the topic of determining how departments evaluate their teaching fellows was discussed. Janice Hauge was charged with developing a rough draft of a questionnaire that will be distributed through the Graduate College sometime in the coming year. The committee also elected a new chair, Tory Caeti for the coming year. The committee will continue to work on the study of how departments evaluate their teaching fellows and teaching assistants in the coming months and will report on the findings in the near future.

The second meeting occurred on March 24th and was convened to review the applications of the nominees for Outstanding Teaching Fellow of which there are four awards. All committee members were in attendance except Doris Coy and Paula Homer, Paula Homer submitted her votes electronically to the chair prior to the meeting and here votes were used to help rank the initial list of applicants. We received thirteen nominees including:

Cynthia Beard, Music
Darin Bradley, English
Brad Clampitt, History
Charity Dillow, Kinesiology, Health Promotion, and Recreation
Stephanie Erickson, Psychology
Maria Harman, Music
Monica Lindermann, Philosophy and Religion Studies
William McGinney, Music History
Terisa Pearce, Teacher Education and Administration
Lesli Robertson, Studio Art / Fibers
Andrew Trachsel, Music
Troy Voelker, Management
Julie An Yu, Music

The committee noted that this year's nominees were all excellent and that the decision was a difficult one. Each committee member recommended five candidates worthy for the award and the candidates with the most nominations were identified. Subsequently, we discussed the list of

the most nominated to narrow the pool down to the four that would receive the awards. The applicant's letter, their letters of recommendation, their teaching evaluations, their course requirements, and their vitae were all reviewed in determining the final list. The four winners of the awards are:

Darin Bradley, English
Brad Clampitt, History
Andrew Trachsel, Music
Julie An Yu, Music

Recommendations

The committee recommends that in the future all application packets submitted by candidates be structured similarly and are submitted in the same order. Further, all candidates should submit summaries of their teaching evaluation scores only and not individual student evaluations. The packets should only contain selected comments from students and not the individual teaching evaluation form submitted by the students. This made the packets bulky and difficult to sift through. Additionally, all of the nominees should submit a list of the courses they have instructed including the semester and year of the course and the number of students. The committee recommends that future application packets be structured as follows:

1. Cover Sheet (please remove the Social Security # requirement on this sheet)
2. Current Vita
3. Letters of Recommendation
4. Teaching Statement
5. Listing of Courses Taught and Number of Students
6. Transcripts
7. Summary Teaching Evaluations including Summary Scores and Selected Comments

The committee recommends that the timing of the delivery of the applications be moved forward. The current timing left the committee with only one working week to review the applications. In the future, the applications should be due earlier in the term and distributed to the committee well in advance of Spring Break.