Committee on Teaching
Annual Report to University Academic Senate
May 3, 2018

1. Committee Membership
   Jake Carpenter  Law School
   Jerrin Cherian  Graduate Student Organization
   Evelyn Donate-Bartfield  School of Dentistry
   Cynthia Ellwood (Chair)  College of Education
   Kristen Foster  Klingler College of Arts and Sciences
   Kristin Haglund  College of Nursing
   Lauriann Klockow  College of Health Sciences
   Shaun Longstreet (Ex-officio)  Center for Teaching and Learning
   Terence Ow  College of Business Administration
   Susan Schneider  Opus College of Engineering
   John Su (Ex-officio)  Office of the Provost
   Joyce Wolburg  Diederich College of Communication

   The MUSG representative to the committee did not attend any meetings but was included on all committee communications.

2. Committee Meetings 2017-18
   - The committee met for monthly meetings on the following dates: September 13, October 11, November 8, December 6, January 18, February 14, March 7, April 11, and May 2.

3. Senate Charges to the Committee
   - The committee was charged with evaluating the proposals for the Way Klingler Teaching Enhancement Award and recommending to the Provost a winning proposal.
   - The committee was charged with evaluating the dossiers of the finalists for the Teaching Excellence Award and recommending to the Provost who should receive the award.
   - The committee was charged with continuing the work of examining possible replacements for the current MOCES teaching evaluation system and producing a recommendation to the University Academic Senate by the conclusion of the academic year.

4. Responses to Charges
   - The committee reviewed all proposals submitted for the Way Klingler Teaching Enhancement Award, and provided a recommendation to the Provost based on the committee’s deliberations and final rankings of the dossiers.
The committee reviewed the dossiers of all of finalists for the Teaching Excellence Award, and provided a recommendation to the Provost based on the committee's deliberations and final rankings of the dossiers.

At the April meeting of the UAS, the committee made a recommendation to replace MOCES with IDEA starting in the 2019-20 academic year. The motion carried, and the matter will go forward to the Provost for a decision.

5. Committee Work and Accomplishments
   
   A. In-Depth Consideration of the IDEA Course Evaluation System
      
      The central task for the committee this year was the further examination and vetting of IDEA as a course evaluation system as potential replacement for the current MOCES. This built on the committee's prior work in 2016-17 probing Marquette's experience with MOCES and, in 2017-18, reviewing major course evaluation systems. Over the course of this year, the committee sought extensive feedback from faculty, students, administrators, and leadership bodies as to their concerns about and aspirations for course evaluation in general and the IDEA model in particular. The committee also probed the substance and logistics of IDEA, delved further into the research, and queried other universities about their experience with the tool.

      The committee concluded that IDEA offered important benefits: the quality of the questions posed by IDEA are significantly more specific and more actionable than the questions we are currently asking; IDEA offers valuable formative resources to enable instructors to improve their teaching; statistical adjustments and instructor-selected objectives respond to the nature, discipline, and purposes of different courses; and the tool has been researched and refined over the 45 years of use in hundreds of universities and colleges. It was the committee's assessment that when an instructor receives feedback that is specific and actionable, taking into account the nature of the course, and they have access to resources and supports that enable them to respond to that feedback, teaching is more likely to improve and high-stakes processes are fairer and better-informed. Since this more substantive and nuanced feedback arises from a tool that is lengthier and more detailed, the committee recommended that the tool be administered in-class whenever possible, and that faculty, students, and administrators be educated about the tool, data interpretation, and the role of course evaluation in supporting Marquette's commitment to teaching.

   B. Discussion of Way Klingler Teaching Enhancement Award Process
      
      Building on thoughts raised in the committee last year, the committee reviewed the Teaching Enhancement Award process with the goal of enhancing continued creativity and innovation in the proposals, the number of proposals submitted, and the impact of the awarded projects on the Marquette community. The call for proposals in 2018-19 will specify potential areas of focus without limiting proposals to these areas. The goal of the revised call will be to:
• Contribute to provocative, creative and critical thinking and action that leads to dynamic, innovative and effective teaching.

• Advance and deepen important initiatives on campus, which might include: the promotion of civil discourse and development of trust across diverse members of the Marquette community — reflecting the Marquette Forum theme of *Democracy in Troubled Times*; coursework that reflects the intellectual contributions and experience of African American, Latina/o/x, and Indigenous American communities; projects arising from the University Strategic Plan; Discovery Tier themes and other aspects of the university core of common studies; partnerships with the community; the development of badges; and others.

• Allow for and encourage a broader range in the types of proposals and composition of proposing teams. One proposal idea, for example, might be the creation of an institute for Marquette faculty and instructors aimed at developing “communities of practice” around a particular dimension of teaching. The institute might consist of a series of workshops led by Faculty Fellows and open to all instructors (faculty, instructors, graduate students) who wish to explore and enhance their teaching together.

C. **Review of the Teaching Excellence Awards Process**

The committee reviewed and refined the process used to ensure that selection decisions for the Teaching Excellence Awards are optimally informed and considered.

6. **Unfinished Business**

The outgoing and newly elected chairs will work with the Provost and the Office of Research and Assessment over the summer, if requested, to support decision-making and/or implementation related to the course evaluation system.

Work will continue over the summer to refine the wording of the Way Klingler Teaching Enhancement Awards call for proposals.

7. **Committee Recommendations for Unfinished and Future Business**

A. As part of its recommendation regarding IDEA, the committee emphasized the importance of *ongoing* attention to the course evaluation system and its impacts. The committee, composed of faculty representatives of every College, is committed to supporting the process of piloting and implementing IDEA should it be adopted. The committee sees this as a part of larger continuing dialogue about excellence in teaching and the importance of multiple measures of and lenses on teaching.

B. The committee will reflect on the effect of changes in the awards processes as they are implemented in the coming year.