



CHARTER & BY-LAWS



PURDUE UNIVERSITY TEACHING ACADEMY

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Revised April 2014

The Mission of the Teaching Academy is to enhance and strengthen the quality of teaching and learning at the undergraduate and graduate levels and to provide leadership for outreach efforts to improve K-12 education.

Bringing together outstanding scholar-teachers from across the institution, the Teaching Academy provides interested faculty, staff, and students the opportunity to talk, learn, and work together on important and meaningful educational initiatives. The Teaching Academy sponsors programs and activities fostering educational creativity, innovation, and effectiveness both in- and outside the classroom. The Academy is comprised of a dedicated and dynamic network of teacher-scholars committed to the continual improvement of teaching and learning at Purdue University. Under the auspices of the Office of the Provost, the Teaching Academy works with the academic schools and colleges, the Center for Instructional Excellence, and others to enrich the educational experiences of the entire Purdue University community.

I. Goals

- A. Promote appreciation of the complex and dynamic nature of teaching and learning.
- B. Establish programs that nurture the integration of the scholarship of teaching and learning with the scholarship of discovery.
- C. Help the campus define exemplary instruction and create an environment that enables both teachers and learners to reach their maximum potential.
- D. Facilitate acquisition of knowledge, skills, and techniques basic to effective teaching and learning at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels.
- E. Develop networks for faculty and instructional staff that provide opportunities to interact about the scholarship and experience of teaching and learning.
- F. Develop and support programs that bring together faculty, administrative/professional staff, and students to foster a sense of shared responsibility in learning.
- G. Provide advice to the Office of the Provost on issues of teaching and learning.

II. Structure. The Teaching Academy consists of individuals recognized for their ability and interest in the art and science of pedagogy.

A. The Academy —The Academy's membership will consist of Fellows, Associates, and Honorary Members.

- 1. Fellows.** Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award (i.e., Murphy Award) recipients, Distinguished Professors selected on the basis of the scholarship of teaching, and faculty nominated by the Schools/Colleges and selected by the Executive Council of the Academy. These individuals will be invited to become Fellows of the Academy.

- a. On a yearly basis, each School/College may nominate one individual for Fellow status.
 - b. In a typical year, five Fellows will be invited to join the Academy.
 2. **Associates.** Associates are individuals (i.e., instructors and other teaching staff) who have distinguished themselves in teaching and were nominated by the Schools/Colleges and selected by the Executive Council of the Academy.
 - a. On a yearly basis, each School/College may nominate one individual for Associate status
 - b. From these nominees, a maximum of five Associates will be invited to join the Academy.
 - c. Associates who become members of the faculty will become Fellows upon notification of the change in their status.
 3. **Honorary Members.** Honorary members will consist of exceptional candidates selected by the Executive Council from graduate teaching assistants who have distinguished themselves in teaching.
- B. The Executive Council** - This group meets regularly, is responsible for executing the activities of the Teaching Academy, and convenes meetings of the Academy to honor and celebrate teaching excellence at Purdue.
1. **Membership** - A maximum of eleven Fellows and one Associate member.
 - a. The eleven Fellows are chosen on a rotating basis by the Executive Council to provide broad representation from the Schools/Colleges on the West Lafayette campus.
 - b. The Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and the Director of the Center for Instructional Excellence will serve as *ex officio* members of the Executive Council.
 2. **Leadership** - The leadership of the Executive Council will consist of a Chair-elect, a Chair, and a Past-chair who will work closely together.
 - a. The term of office for each position begins at the conclusion of the Spring academic semester and continues for one calendar year.
 - b. In the spring, the Executive Council nominates a Chair-elect from the membership of the Executive Council and submits the nominee to the Provost for approval and appointment.
 - c. The Chair-elect will become the Chair at the conclusion of his/her term. The Chair will become the Past-chair at the conclusion of his/her term.
 - d. The Past-chair will rotate off the Executive Council following completion of his/her term.

- e. If the Chair-elect cannot succeed the current Chair, the current Chair may be nominated by the Executive Council to continue for an additional year as Chair. If the current Chair is unable to continue for an additional year as Chair and there is no Chair-elect, the Executive Council may nominate a new Chair and submit the nominee to the Provost for approval and appointment.
- f. The Chair and Chair-elect should be provided budgetary release time and administrative support necessary to conduct the business of the Academy.

3. **Term of appointment**

- a. Members of the Executive Council will serve three years on a rotational basis in which approximately one-third of the Council will rotate off on a yearly basis. Members of the Executive Council are eligible for a maximum of two consecutive three year terms.
- b. New Executive Council members are solicited from the membership of the Teaching Academy and are chosen by the Executive Council.