Teaching Committee  
Academic Senate, Los Angeles Division

Minutes of Meeting  
November 12, 2003

Present: J. Weinreb, Chair; R. Liggett; J. Lewis; A. Scheibel; V. Cortinez; B. Baker; B. Walker
Absence: J. Garnett, J. Smith (GSA rep), K. Terraciano
Staff: M. Avila; D. Dang
Guests: A. Plauzoles; Judith Smith, Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education; Raymond Knapp
Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 2:37 pm

1. WELCOME

Chair welcomed new and returning members to the 2003-04 academic year of the Teaching Committee. She provided an overview of the committee’s structure and function.

After reviewing the preliminary committee meeting schedule, some members expressed concern that the winter and spring meeting times may conflict with their teaching schedules. Some departments have not provided its faculty with a teaching schedule. The meeting schedule will be adjusted if necessary.

2. POSSIBLE ISSUES FOR 2003-04

Committee members reviewed the committee’s priority issues for 2003-04 and indicated that they would like to meet with Jonathan Post, Chair of the Joint Task Force on Departmental Teaching Policies, and Kathleen Komar, Chair of Senate ad hoc Committee on Faculty Instructional Effort Data and Reporting, to discuss the mandates for increased teaching.

3. PROPOSAL ON ACADEMIC SENATE REORGANIZATION

Margaret Avila gave an overview of the proposal to reorganize the Academic Senate. Most committee members felt that combining the Teaching Committee with the Committee on Faculty Research Lectureship into one committee would not be effective. It is believed that members who evaluate candidates for Distinguished Teaching have different expertise and expectations than those members who assess candidates for extraordinary achievements in research and ability to present a lecture. Thus, it would be a disservice to the candidates and the award programs if the senate were to combine the award committees into one. It could result in having committee members not fully qualify to select the winners.

4. REPORT ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION IN A RESEARCH CONTEXT

Chair welcomed Vice Provost Judith Smith and Professor Raymond Knapp to the meeting. They explained their role on the Taskforce on Undergraduate Education in a Research Context, and spoke about the recommendation that the Senate should create a new Distinguished Teaching Award for
mentoring undergraduate research. Vice Provost Smith stressed the importance of exposing undergraduate students to research as an integral part of their studies. She went on to say that it is fitting to honor faculty members that are excellent undergraduate research mentors. COT members supported the idea of implementing a sixth award for Senate members beginning in 2004-05. However, they questioned whether adequate resources for a new award would be provided. It was learned that EVC Neuman had expressed a commitment to fund the new award at the same level as the ladder faculty awards. Setting up this new procedure will involve several different departments and will require new criterion for evaluating exceptional mentoring.

**Action:** COT will send the criteria used to select teaching award candidates to Vice Provost Smith and she will review the elements and provide additional factors that can be used in considering the candidates who mentor undergraduate researchers.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm