Committee on Teaching Final Report to Policy Council – 2003-04

All-University Teaching Awards. In order to increase the visibility of the School of Education's teaching mission across campus, the committee elected to contact department chairpersons and have them encourage their faculty – particularly the 2003 recipients of SOE teaching awards -- to submit their dossiers across campus for this year's 2004 All-University Teaching Awards. To facilitate this objective the committee compiled a list of all of the teaching awards that were available, the nominations procedures involved, criteria used in making selections, and due dates when dossiers had to be across campus and sent these to department chairpersons asking them to please encourage their faculties to apply. This effort resulted in three SOE faculty members receiving All-University Teaching Awards in 2004.

Plagiarism. The Committee on Teaching was charged by the Policy Council to study the issue of plagiarism and bring back a series of recommendations relative to what action the SOE should take. The committee studied this issue and recommended as a first step that all students in the SOE be required to pass an online plagiarism tutorial. This recommendation was brought to the Policy Council in March and passed.

Committee on Teaching Sponsored Workshops. To encourage outstanding teaching within the School of Education, the Committee on Teaching sponsors a series of workshops presented by the recipients of last year's SOE teaching awards. Two 2-hour workshops were held with recipients presenting on topics of their choice. Because of low faculty turn out, alternates to workshops are being considered for next year, one of which is an online newsletter sponsored by the COT and including short articles by SOE recipients of teaching awards.

Peer Evaluation of Teaching. One of the ongoing tasks of the COT has been to review what other universities have been doing regarding evaluating teaching on their campus. Because many universities, including the IUPUI campus, are now using some form of peer evaluation in addition to a standardized measure, the COT decided to explore this topic in some depth. Although no specific decisions have been reached, contact with various groups concerned with improving teaching (FACET, Scholarship on Teaching, Center for Professional Development at IUPUI) have been made and the procedures they are using are being studied.

2004 Teaching Awards. As part of its regular business, the Committee on Teaching monitors as well as updates the SOE's website relative deadlines, submission procedures, and criteria that will be used. This year 13 faculty and 12 associate instructors submitted dossiers for the SOE's teaching awards. To review these awards, the committee divided itself into two groups, with one group reviewing the faculty awards and another group reviewing the associate instructor awards. To avoid conflicts of interest, members of the committee who were nominated for teaching awards by their departments automatically became members of the AI Teaching Award Subcommittee. Seven faculty and five associate instructors were identified for receipt of 2004 teaching awards:

Gorman Award: Enid Zimmerman
Trustee's Teaching Awards:
Valarie Akerson, Suzanne Eckes, Martha McCarthy, Mary McMullen, Edward Delgado Romero, Laura Stachowski
AI Awards:
Christopher Frey, Tasha Leman, Suzanne Pack Marrero, Donna Vickers, Martin Whittingham

Celebration of Teaching. Each year the School of Education honors faculty receiving teaching awards in a special ceremony. In addition to identifying recipients, the Committee on Teaching works with Dr. Diana Lambdin in identifying speakers and preparing the program. This year's celebration will be held on April 28, from 3:30 to 5:00 in the Auditorium. The Superintendent of Schools for the Monroe County Community School Corporation, Dr. Malloy, will keynote.

Other Business.

Nomination Procedures for AI Teaching Awards. Dr. Jesse Goodman asked that the committee review the criteria by which nominations for outstanding teaching could be made. As a result of this request, the committee decided that next year's criteria should be written so that, in addition to department chairpersons, any faculty member who has extensive knowledge of an AI teaching experience be able to nominate candidates.

Review of Selection Procedures for Trustee Teaching Awards. The committee spent its final meeting of the year debriefing the procedures and criteria it used for the selection of this year's teaching recipients. Because one of the issues that came up was an unevenness in materials submitted across dossiers, and at least one faculty member questioned how the committee remained unbiased when members of the committee were nominated for teaching awards, it was decided that a subcommittee be formed to make recommendations for what changes need to be made in our procedures for 2004-05.

White Paper on Teaching. Signe Kastberg began drafting a White Paper highlighting those things which the Committee on Teaching have addressed in past years and have continued to address this year, the notion being that such a paper might make teaching a focal point of discussion within the School as well as make such discussions more productive.

Valarie Akerson Jerome Harste, Co-Chairs