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March 22, 2014

To: Academic Senate

From: Nanine Van Draanen, Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry
Chair, Distinguished Teaching Award Committee, 2013-14

Re: Report for Winter Quarter, 2014
Distinguished Teaching Awards Committee of the Academic Senate

The DTA Committee individually assessed the written nominations over the winter break, and submitted their rankings electronically via a Google Doc spreadsheet. The group met on January 10, 2014, to discuss the rankings and determine the finalists. All members of the committee, save David Juarez, Umut Toker, and Wayne Howard, were in attendance. Nine finalists and one alternate were selected, representing the following Colleges: Science & Math (5); Liberal Arts (3); Agriculture (1); and Architecture (1).

Nanine Van Draanen and Gladys Gregory subsequently collaborated contact the finalists and request their participation. All finalists participated except one; the alternate was contacted and chose to participate.. The finalists submitted their class schedules, syllabi, and curriculum vitae to Gladys Gregory, who then prepared a visitation matrix . Nanine Van Draanen uploaded the visitation matrix to Google Drive and made it a living document that all members of the committee could access and edit, thus allowing real-time changes to be reflected as classes were canceled or other changes notes.

The remainder of Winter quarter, the committee members made their visitations to the classrooms. The committee met on March 17 to have an interim discussion of the candidates, which was a departure from previous years. The committee found this discussion useful and recommends holding this mid-way meeting in future years.

The committee will repeat the steps for gathering information on Spring quarter schedules, creation of the visitation matrix, and visit classrooms again in Spring quarter. At the end of Spring quarter, the committee will meet to decide on the awardee(s).