



American Taxation Association

DATE: June 27, 2007
TO: ATA Officers and Trustees
FROM: Jennifer Kahle, Chairperson
RE: New Faculty Concerns Committee – 2007 Year End Report

NFCC Breakfast

The New Faculty Concerns Committee (NFCC) hosted the NFCC Breakfast on Saturday, February 24th, at the Mid-Year meeting in San Antonio. Amy Dunbar gave an informal presentation concerning advice to new faculty. Carol Fischer, associate editor of JATA for book reviews, dissertation abstracts and software reviews, encouraged new faculty to submit their dissertation abstracts.

Attendance by new faculty at this year's meeting was better than in past years. We believe this was due to the committee contacting the new faculty prior to the meeting and encouraging them to attend. To also encourage attendance, the NFCC arranged for a hot breakfast (omelets) to be provided to the attendees. The breakfast was restricted to new faculty (vs. PhD students) this year. The NFCC felt that this was appropriate given that the concerns of new faculty are different than those of PhD students. However, depending upon the number of new faculty and the future goals of the NFCC breakfast, this issue should be addressed again in the future.

All registrants who identified themselves as "new faculty" on the registration forms for the ATA Mid Year Meeting were invited to the breakfast. It was noted that a few individuals had registered as new faculty in multiple years, and thus, did not attend the breakfast in the current year; and at least one attendee of the breakfast had not been personally contacted about the breakfast. The NFCC recommends that in the future, we try to obtain a list of tax faculty attending the New Faculty Consortium to obtain a complete list of names of 1st year new faculty. In addition, the NFCC recommends that an RSVP policy be imposed on the breakfast to get an accurate count of attendees.

New Faculty Introductions

Each new faculty member attending the ATA Mid-Year meeting was introduced at the lunch session on Friday afternoon.

E&Y Travel Grant

Ernst & Young again provided \$5,000 to be allocated among PhD students that want to attend the JATA/ATA Midyear Conference. E&Y has agreed to continue these grants through 2008. In

the current year grants ranging from \$100 to \$250 were awarded to 28 students (compared to 29 in 2006). The application process for these grants was streamlined for 2007: students applied using a web form and the allocation rules were standardized and made available to the students in advance.

The NFCC recommends that notification of the availability of the travel grant be placed on the ATA website early in the fall. In addition, the NFCC recommends that in the future, we work with the Tax Doctoral Consortium Committee to notify PhD students of the travel grant opportunity.

Teaching Mentorship

As in the prior year, there has been no demand from new faculty for mentors.

Directory of PhD Programs

In 2006 the committee updated this directory to reflect changes in PhD programs, coordinators and contact information. The process of converting this list to an SQL database, which may be accessed via web forms, was completed this year. This database will allow PhD program representatives to update their own information in response to email requests. An update request was sent out in March 2007. One open item is that the NFCC will need to go through the directory manually to check for errors and make any necessary corrections.