

OFLA Annual Report
Beginning Teachers Committee
April, 2014 Conference

To summarize, the Beginning Teachers Committee has refocused and narrowed its goals this year. Having started the year with a number of goals carried over from spring and summer of 2013, the committee decided to survey OFLA Beginning Teacher members to identify our beginning teacher population and, more importantly, their needs and interests for being a part of OFLA. In summary, the committee identified that beginning teachers are most interested in the resources/tools that OFLA can share and in continuing/expanding discounts and financial support for beginning teachers.

At the November, 2013 board meeting, Rachel Poynter, Jeanne Schulté and Lucas Hoffman met to revisit our goals for the 2013-2014 school year. They decided to proceed with the list of tasks decided on in March, 2013 at CSCTFL in Columbus. They agreed it would be important to conduct a membership survey first to better address member needs based on member interest. This survey was conducted in February 2014 with a follow-up in April, 2014. Over thirty members responded.

At the March, 2014 board meeting, Lucas Hoffman was joined by Rachel Poynter, Jeanne Schulté, and William Langley. They discussed and revised their committee goals after examining the membership survey responses. Beginning teacher members identified the list-serve, and print/online resources, access to quality state and local professional development, and financial aid/scholarships as being the most important reasons for becoming or remaining an OFLA member. With this information in mind, the committee decided to narrow its focus to developing an online resource via Google Drive where beginning teachers can find documents, syllabi, classroom rules, etc. that will be helpful in their first days of school. They will continue to advocate for scholarships and reduced pricing for beginning teachers. Each committee member is sharing documents and/or seeking other examples from model teachers around the state.

Outside of these board meetings, the committee chair Lucas Hoffman has attended all other board meetings including the August retreat. He has submitted articles for each *Cardinal*. He is also running a working meeting session at the OFLA conference. Throughout the year, he emailed and coordinated with committee members and other board members via email.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucas Hoffman