Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2012

Present: Joan Shapiro (Pres), Tricia Jones (Secy.), Paul LaFollette (Past-Pres.), Cheri Carter (SSW),
Kurosh Darvish (Engr), Deborah Howe (SED), Forrest Huffman (FSBM), Michael Jackson (STHM),
Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Jim Korsh (CST), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald),
Michael Sachs (CHP), Catherine Schifter (Educ), Joseph Schwartz (CLA), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), David
Sonenshein (Law), Karen Turner (SMC), Doug Wager (TFMA), David Waldstreicher (Fac. Herald)

Absent: Mark Rahdert (Vice Pres.), Klara S. Alperstein (Dent.), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Cheryl Mack
(Coord.)

1. Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 1:03.

2. Approval of Minutes:
The minutes from the November 13, 2012 meeting were reviewed. There were two minor edits
suggested. With these edits it was moved, seconded to accept the minutes. There was unanimous support.

3. President’s Report:
Joan P. Shapiro, Faculty Senate President, gave her report. She reminded FSSC that the end-of-
semester luncheon meeting is scheduled for December 4th at 12:00pm. Cheryl Mack, Faculty Senate Staff,
said she will be contacting members to ask for RSVPs on who will attend. Joan also mentioned that
President Englert will be attending the luncheon. FSSC will be thinking of ways to appropriately
acknowledge President Englert at the luncheon.

Joan reminded the members that December 7th is the last Representative Faculty Senate meeting
for the semester. Provost Dai will be there and we will be honoring retiring faculty. There will also be a
report on recommendations from the Task Force on Institutional Integrity.

In the last FSSC meeting it was recommended that Joan Shapiro write a memo to Peter Jones,
Senior Vice-Provost, concerning the decision to convene an advisory group to review the program review
committee report in GenEd. Joan reported that she will be meeting with Peter to discuss this situation and
get more information for the rationale behind the advisory group and then will follow up on the written
memo suggestion.

4. Vice President’s Report:
The Vice President’s report gave an update on committee appointments and elections. Three
candidates for appointment to the Faculty Herald Board were discussed: Will Jordan (COE); Terry
Halbert (CLA); Deborah Howe (SED). The appointment of all three was moved, seconded and
unanimously approved. One candidate for the Sustainability Committee was discussed: Slobodan Vucetic
(CST). His appointment was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

It was noted that the voting for elected committees has begun. Earlier in the week the test ballot
had been sent to FSSC members. One member noted that one of the bio links on the ballot was not
working. Cheryl Mack indicated she would contact computer services to check that.

As noted in the last FSSC minutes, the Provost Search Committee has been appointed and
convened. There were many excellent nominations for that committee and Howard Klein, head of CATA,
wrote a letter to the people not selected thanking them for their consideration and encouraging them to
apply for other committee service opportunities.
Via e-mail to the faculty listserv, Temple faculty have been asked to submit names for the provost search. All members were encouraged to send in nominations and/or encourage their colleague to do so.

5. Guests: Patrick J. O’Connor, Chair of the Board of Trustees and President Dick Englert.
   The FSSC was pleased and honored to have Patrick O’Connor, Chair of the Board of Trustees as a guest. President Richard Englert was able to join Chair O’Connor during this session with the FSSC. Joan Shapiro introduced Chair O’Connor, indicating his professional and educational background and his strong commitment to serving higher education institutions.
   Chair O’Connor began by sharing his thoughts about education and his passion for Temple’s mission. He gave the example of his work with the Children’s First committee for the School District of Philadelphia that emphasizes commitment to education as the great leveler and the key to social opportunity and social justice. He strongly believes that affordable education is key. He discussed his own educational background that strengthened his interest in educational opportunities for students from less affluent backgrounds. He also summarized his experiences at Temple, starting with his appointment as a Trustee at the age of 28.
   Chair O’Connor spoke about Temple’s mission. He sees Temple as the only university in the country that does, at this level of excellence, what his alma maters did at a smaller college level. Affordability and accessibility are critical. Faculty and board interests are aligned on this.
   He explained the role of chairman is working with the president to keep the Temple mission true and to keep the university affordable. This can create some tension with faculty compensation structures, but he believes we can work through those issues when we all remember the underlying Temple mission that guides our decisions. He provided the example of the $100 million scholarship program. The people who graduate here are “world ready.” That’s our uniqueness. One role of the Chair is to increase philanthropy. We need to take 8% alumni participation to 22% -- comparable to Penn State’s. We want to increase giving in small gifts from more folks. The Board is responsible for keeping the mission of Temple what it is. It is also a requirement to work with community. Trustees have a limited role in the academic operation of the university. They select the president (hire and fire); keep educational mission true, and guide fund raising to keep things affordable. Good faculty are essential to a good institution. Working with faculty is key. We’re colleagues.
   Chair O’Connor complimented Paul LaFollette (Past President of Faculty Senate) on his role in selecting the new president. In his work on the Presidential Search Committee, Paul had great questions and was listened to carefully. Chair O’Connor said he knows that faculty wanted more participation in the process, but he emphasized that the key to attracting good people to this position is confidentiality. He wants to state that the faculty voice is very important and will always be important in such discussions. Paul LaFollette indicated that he always felt appreciated in his role on the search committee. It was obvious to him that everyone was looking for the best they could find for Temple.
   Chair O’Connor thanked President Dick Englert for taking the leadership role he has taken. He noted that President Englert was asked to take on leadership and continue in leadership and had fulfilled his commitment to Temple in remarkable ways.

There was an energetic and positive question and answer session:
- Are you concerned about privatizing direction with state allocations decreasing? (He noted that the Board worked with PA Speaker of the House and President of the PA Senate and brought the appropriations committee to campus. The Board testified and the legislators saw how important and affordable we are. Temple was the only state-related university that froze tuition. Governor Corbett was very appreciative. President Englert served on the Higher Education committee and submitted a report to them. He helped keep state-relateds as a part of state HE budget.)

One of the FSSC members also noted that it is important to recognize that TAUP signed on to hold line on tuition freeze.
-Can faculty be more included in the process to make arguments about Temple strengths when allocations discussions happen again? (Chair O’Connor noted that this is a good point; we do take students and others out; we should have faculty more involved).
-Temple’s mission – are we seeing fewer students from SDP in our classrooms? Is there an issue with decreasing diversity? (He’s involved with SDP and this issue concerns him. He believes we should challenge the new head of SDP to partner more with our College of Education. We have to elevate the public perspective on that issue.)
-How does the board hear the faculty voices? (Chair O’Connor answered honestly that his previous experience has been only in the context of collective bargaining; and he didn’t like it. He’s pro faculty, student and administration; they are all aligned. He complimented Joan Shapiro and Paul LaFollette on their leadership in faculty senate). One FSSC member made the suggestion that we have a faculty representative and a student representative as members to the board. (Chair O’Connor said he was not opposed to it.)
-What are you looking forward to with President-Elect Theobald’s leadership? (He said that his feeling is that Neil Theobald understands who “we” are; has a strong appreciation for Temple’s mission. He also has a very strong finance background. And, he is a listener; he will not act precipitously.)
-What’s your view of RCM? (It’s a data point. You need to have some support for colleges that will never make money.)
-Can we have more active participation in committees of the Board? (Chair O’Connor agreed that faculty voice should be heard at the board committee levels).
-How can we have even more communication with the Board members? (Chair O’Connor asked if FSSC is the preferred venue. If so, he’d love to have trustees come over and talk with FSSC about issues. He emphasized that we have to be more inclusive).
-Does the Board sense tensions between excellence and inclusiveness? (He agreed that those tensions exist and that the Board recognizes they exist. He shared his personal orientation that the lean should be to Temple’s social justice mission).
-One FSSC member from the TUHS components commented that, he’s not sure whose idea it was to have hospital side and university side voiced by the same person, but it was a genius leadership move. (Chair O’Connor commented that it has allowed us to attract people we would not have attracted. And he noted that it is important for us to continue to coordinate the TUHS and TU components).
-One FSSC member commented that it would be helpful for faculty and the Board members to talk about the relationship between teaching and research. (He agrees and indicates that he needs to understand that better.)
-Can we have an open invitation to invite Board members to visit classes, etc.? (Chair O’Connor felt this was a terrific idea and would like to consider other immersion activities.)

6. Old Business:
There was no old business.

7. New Business:
There was no new business.

8. Adjournment:
It was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn at 3:29pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tricia S. Jones
Faculty Senate Secretary