Faculty Senate Steering Committee  
Tuesday, January 29, 2013  
Meeting Minutes

Present: Joan Shapiro (Pres), Mark Rahdert (Vice 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), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Jim Korsh (CST), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald), Michael Sachs (CHP), Catherine Schifter (Educ), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Karen M. Turner (SMC), Doug Wager (TFMA), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: David Sonenshein (Law), Joseph Schwartz (CLA) [sabbatical]

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

2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 22, 2013 FSSC meeting were not approved pending further discussion.

3. Guest: Interim Provost Dai visited the FSSC meeting.

4. Guests:
Peter Jones, Vice-Provost and Chair of the SFF Committee
David Lopez, President of Temple Student Government
Ofo Ezuegwu, Vice-President of Temple Student Government

These guests came to speak to the FSSC about the online SFFs. Vice-Provost Jones began with a PowerPoint presentation summarizing data analyses from Fall 2012’s SFF reports and from a second data set of SFFs from 2008-2012. Among the data shared are:
Student SFFs reports (data from Fall 2012):
-very high response rates; generally over 50%
-quality of text feedback very strong
-strong correlation between when faculty respond and when students respond
-overall response rate e-copy 50%; paper – middle 70%
Student SFFs (2008-2012):
-There were many excellent insights from this analysis, but among the most important was the difference between colleges in terms of SFFs and predictors of those SFFs.
-The data show that there are no university-wide patterns of SFFs and we need to better understand the policy implications of this

After the presentation of the results there was a general conversation about several issues:
-will there be a survey of faculty to see what they did to encourage student response? (would be helpful now that we have college by college data)
-are foreign students at a disadvantage in this format?
-will anything be done for faculty on lower end of the mean scores, etc., deeper analysis?
-can faculty have a chance to have a response to student feedback forms?

A very important question concerned the whether this data should be shared with the full university and in Faculty Herald?
  -Herald is online and there may be some concern of releasing data prematurely

A second very important question was raised by the TSG guests – can SFF results be released in some form with students?
David Lopez reported data from the results of TUSQ last year – 92% would strongly agree they would view SFFs results if available online – highest level ever on this question.
-TSG feels students should have access to SFF data; that SFF data provides much more information than data from alternate sources like Rate My Professor.

There was a general discussion of concerns with this process. There was a reminder that SFF data can be used for positive uses to bolster professional development

5. Appointment of Doug Wager to the University Budgetary Advisory Committee: It was moved, seconded and approved to appoint Doug Wager (TFMA) to the UBAC.

6. Adjournment: It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:09pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tricia S. Jones
Faculty Senate Secretary