Faculty Senate Steering Committee  
Tuesday, February 12, 2013  
Meeting Minutes

Present: Joan Shapiro (Pres), Mark Rahdert (Vice Pres.), Tricia Jones (Secy.), Paul LaFollette (Past-Pres.), Kurosh Darvish (Engr), Deborah Howe (SED), Forrest Michael Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Jim Korsh (CST), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald), Michael Sachs (CHP), Catherine Schifter (Edu), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), David Sonenshein (Law), Karen M. Turner (SMC), Doug Wager (TFMA), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Cheri Carter (SSW), Huffman (FSBM), Joseph Schwartz (CLA) [sabbatical]

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:08pm.

2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of February 5, 2013 were amended to reflect the names of the task forces -- “Online Education Task Force of the Board” “Distance Learning Standards Advisory Committee”. With that amendment it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the minutes.

The FSSC returned to discussion of the minutes of January 22, 2013. It was moved that we amend the content by removing the phrase “that Diane sees herself in that role.” With that change it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the minutes.

3. Vice-President’s Report: Mark Rahdert, Vice-President of the Senate, reported on progress for committees.
   - Elvis Wagner (COE) wishes to renew his term on Library Committee and this was approved by FSSC.
   - We need candidates for elected positions for UTPAC (must be from TAUP represented schools), EPPC, and Sabbatical Committee.
   - We need appointments on Personnel Committee; this committee needs to be fully staffed by the end of this term.
   - The Invention and Patent Committee will soon have a number of members leaving and we need to work on identifying replacements.

The Vice-President also indicated some problems with the bylaws in terms of language concerning the ability of the FSSC to address vacancies of terms and replacements.

   a. The first suggested change to the By-laws, Article IV Section 2 that presently provides: “Members of the University Promotion and Tenure Committee must be tenured full professors. Members of the Senate Personnel Committee must be tenured faculty. Any University Senator may serve on any committee other than these two.
A motion was put on the floor and seconded that “Before “Any” in the third sentence, insert: “Unless otherwise designated in these by-laws or in the charge for the relevant committee.” The motion was approved by a vote of 15 in favor, 0 opposing, and 1 abstention.

b. The second suggested change to Article IV, Section 12 that presently provides: “In the event that any specified elected position on any committee be vacant, the Steering Committee may select a qualified Faculty Senator to fill that position until the end of the term of the vacant position.”

A motion was put on the floor and seconded “In the event that there are fewer candidates for election than the number of vacancies on any elected committee, the Steering Committee may select a qualified Faculty Senator to fill that vacancy for a period of up to one academic year, at which point the remainder of that committee member’s term will be filled by election.” After much discussion the motion was accepted by a vote of 14 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstaining.

4. Guest: Jodi Levine-Laufgraben, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Institutional Advancement. Jodi came to share exciting news about Banner Updates that will be in effect for Summer and Fall registration. These updates concern wait-listing and washing out.

Banner can now wait-list for courses. The Law School has been using wait-listing as a pilot so we now have a better understanding that wait-listing is a key tool for academic planning and scheduling. We will have wait-listing beginning in March for Summer Session and it will be available for every course. The capacity is 100 on waitlists. Students can see capacity and number waitlisted but not where they are specifically on the waitlist. If you are waitlisted and you are first on the list you are notified and have 72 hours to decide whether to take the opening or not (72 hours allow for students who need advisor signature to register, hence over the weekend).

This system doesn’t allow for section shopping – can only be waitlisted for a course you don’t have. They can be on limitless waitlists. This system eliminates the ability of someone as an individual instructor to override enrollment limits and let a student in a course.

Washing Out: The Wednesday before start of semester, a student who has not paid for their courses are washed out. This was the #1 problem for financial aid offices and caused a great deal of stress and tension for students. We will no longer have washouts. Instead, students will be asked to sign an agreement that if they register for a course and cannot pay in full beginning of semester they will be put into a payment plan but will not be washed out of the course.

Jodi invited FSSC members to contact her if they have questions:
jodihi@temple.edu

5. Guest: Art Hochner, President of TAUP
Art came to talk further about the Temple University petition to PALRB to remove chairs from TAUP bargaining unit. He explained that TAUP opposes this move and are in the process of gathering information from faculty to determine their best response strategy. He explained that the union was certified in 1973 with explicit provision that chairs are members. This has been
issue in previous contract bargaining – the administration claiming that duties of chairs have changed and so should their status.
The PALRB Hearing (first day) is set May 3rd in Harrisburg. Temple University administration has to put on its case first.

There were several comments and questions from FSSC members:
-we need serious studies of what chairs are at TU now, no real consistency
-what is implication for academic situation for chair (load, research/scholarship expectations?)
-we need for real faculty governance and this need will skyrocket under RCM
-(Art responded that) PLRB can only judge on evidence of what has changed in chair role, not how chair role may change under RCM. Contract has procedure for chair selection; there is a mandated consultation process and minimum compensation procedure. The change in chair status would alter these and other things.
-what happens if there are mass resignations of chairs?
-there are concerns about how this could change a chair’s ability to convey information that is not “admin” party line
-would this ruling push us in the direction of having permanent chairs?
-are there official university guidelines for chairs?
-does hiring for a chair position make it permanent for them?
-what can be done as data collection by TAUP? (Art responded that):
  -need faculty help; (TAUP has staff and volunteers)
  -need chairs and former chairs (but are problems with what folks may say and what form of data they are willing to give)
-what about using the University Guidelines on chair positions as foundation for a survey instrument?
-FSSC could take a position toward production of data and faculty voice
-FSSC could help TAUP contact retired chairs and faculty who may be able to give valuable information

Art concluded that it is likely to take several days of hearings (hearing examiner, 1 of 2, hears it; then files post hearing brief, then HE gives proposed decision and order; then either side can file exceptions; that is to full board who reviews transcript and upholds or reverses the ruling. Then if either side wants to fight it, it goes to court). Art estimates that this process will take a minimum of a year.

Art invited FSSC members with questions or further comments/suggestions to contact him at ahochner@gmail.com.

6. President’s report: President Joan Shapiro reminded us that next week we have a Representative Faculty Senate meeting on Tuesday, February 19th at 1:45 in Kiva Auditorium.

7. Adjournment: It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn at 3:06pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Faculty Senate Secretary
Tricia S. Jones