Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting  
Minutes  
February 26, 2013

Present: Joan Shapiro (Pres), Mark Rahdert (Vice Pres.), Tricia Jones (Secy.), Paul LaFollette (Past-Pres.), Cheri Carter (SSW), Forrest Huffman (FSBM), Michael Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Jim Korsh (CST), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Howard Spodek (CLA), Karen M. Turner (SMC)

Absent: Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Kurosh Darvish (Engr), Deborah Howe (SED), Michael Sachs (CHP), Catherine Schifter (Educ), David Sonenshein (Law), Doug Wager (TFMA), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

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

2. Approval of Minutes:  
The FSSC minutes of 2/12/2013 were moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

3. Vice President’s Report:  
Mark Rahdert, Vice-President of Faculty Senate gave his report. He mentioned that we still need to get new members for UTPAC, EPPC and Sabbatical committees.

He indicated that we had several nominees to discuss and decide on appointing:
- It was moved, seconded and unanimously support to appoint Barry Berger (PHAR) to the budget review committee.
- It was moved, seconded and unanimously support to appoint Noa Kaumeheiwa (Law librarian) to the lectures and forums committee.
- It was moved, seconded and unanimously support to appoint Latanya Jenkins (Librarian) to both the International Programs committee and the Status of Faculty of Color committee.
- It was moved, seconded and unanimously support to appoint Donna Snow (TFMA) to the Library committee.

Mark also indicated that there was a candidate who had indicated interest in serving on the TU Press Board but Mark has not received a statement of interest so we can’t move forward to recommend him to Board for appointment.

Mark informed the FSSC of another issue concerning the appropriate constitution of the library committee. Eugene Chiu (Law librarian) asking to be on library committee. Dieter Forester, current chair of the library committee, suggested that a librarian should not be eligible for a faculty senate position on the library committee. But, there is nothing in the charge of the committee or guidelines for constituting the committee that clearly prohibits it. There was discussion about how to handle this and we agreed to table this pending further consideration.
4. President’s Report:
Joan Shapiro, Faculty Senate President, asked for input about what to schedule for the upcoming Representative Faculty Senate meetings on March 22nd and April 11th. She reported that on March 22nd, Tim O’Rourke will be willing to talk with us about accessibility issues. There was also discussion that we would have Dialogue with Dai and that Peter Jones may be willing to attend and present his SFFs information.

The April 11th, 2013 meeting may have a focus on undergraduate education and GenEd. And the May 8th session may be a forum on decentralized budgeting.

The agenda suggestions generated a very strong discussion about the current needs of the faculty and how the Faculty Senate meeting agendas can best serve the faculty needs.

We also discussed considering a FSSC resolution to have each school/college/unit have an active budget committee. We felt this was particularly important with upcoming decentralized budget models.

Jim Korsh (CST) mentioned that we need to get Guidelines for Collegial Assemblies and their operation in front of administration and administrative support. He indicated that these were generated last year but have not been acted upon yet.

Tricia Jones (COE) and Karen Turner (SMC) suggested that we should see about getting President Theobald and Doug Preist to attend an FSSC meeting, as early as possible, so we can discuss decentralized budgeting and faculty concerns.

5. Guest: Bassel Sawaya (TUSM), Chair of RPPC visited FSSC.
He is working with Michele Masucci and her committee.
He gave a brief report about what is happening in RPPC. He indicated that RPPC is not doing what they are supposed to do. They have seed money --about $60,000 for whole university. This amount accommodates about 20 applications every year, and clearly the money is not enough.

Michele formed a committee to review the grants on medical campus. RPPC and Michele’s committee are working together. Michele’s committee has millions. She also oversees IRB, etc. He feels RPPC should oversee some of this since their charge is procedure and policy.

There was a robust question and answer session:
- Has there been discussion of what new policies should be? [He will forward a draft to FSSC.]
- Is there a process or mechanism we have (and or have been using or could use) to show return on investment – what the small grants are generating. [Not at this point]
- It is important to have more attention to research policy (e.g., who can be a researcher, Clinical Translational Research Award) .
6. Guest: Michele Masucci, Interim Senior Vice-Provost for Research and Graduate Education visited the FSSC. She is in this office on a long-term interim basis. She provided an overview of her portfolio and the functions in the office.

- Research Enterprise overview: Large scale efforts to advance university research. There are two components -- Sponsored research and Research expenditures – grant expenditures and what we spend on research. We have $125 mil of grants and $135 million of expenditures.

F&A is where that money comes from to operate her office. There are several areas she manages:
- Research Administration – sponsored research support
- Regulatory Affairs (IRB, etc.,) looking to integrate more with Environmental Safety and Bio Safety
- Office of Tech Commercialization (every university that receives federal funding has to have one) NSF requirement (protection, patenting, revenue streams)
- Resources for Research: Reinvestment and research – handshake with the seed funds. They get 8% of F&A and re-investment in research (new investigators, older ones finding new areas, bridge funding).

She mentioned that there are changes in the directions of staffing. She has stopped senior executive hires and has decided to hire “boots on the ground” -- 2 additional staff in sponsored projects; 2 new staff for IRB; a new Animal Care and Control Committee position. She also indicated they need to hire a Contract Specialist: -- Temple contracts shuffle.

She reported on updates to the eRA – System to system handshake when you submit proposals. They are bringing the same approach into IRB submission -- Using technology to facilitate more inclusive process.

Tricia Jones asked about Research Accounting Service and the overlap with Michele’s offices. Michele noted these operate with a different chain of command. The likelihood of these functions being merged is slight. Having them in the same physical space makes most sense. Colleges and departments are confused about the post-award side. President Theobald has asked them to look into this issue.

She concluded that research, grant and contract processing has to have oversight capacity. No one anticipates there won’t be a central office.

In response to additional questions, Michele also noted the following: first, we need both better funding and a more streamlined review process for grants that go to support arts and humanities projects; second, in light of changes in NSF grant rules to include “products” (such as films, data sets, archives, patents, and the like) we need to expand our internal thinking about what sorts of scholarly and creative outputs we value and how we assess their quality; third, Michele would like to see us move toward a process that includes three ongoing internal grant programs for small, medium, and large grants, and that matches process more to the size of the grant than to its purpose.
7. New Business:
There was a request that we put on the agenda a discussion about how to revive collegial assemblies, based on the Faculty Senate principles for collegial assembly bylaws.

8. Adjournment:
The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.