Faculty Senate Steering Committee  
Tuesday, April 3, 2012  
Minutes

Present: Paul S. LaFollette (Pres.), Joan Shapiro (V. Pres.), Mark C. Rahdert (Secy), Karen Turner (Past President), Nora Alter (SCT), Mark Anderson (Law), Adam Davey (CHPSW), Joan Delalic (Engr.)[teleconference], Deborah Howe (SED), Forrest Huffman (FSBM), Michael Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Phar), Tricia S. Jones (Educ.), Charles Jungreis (Med.), Stephanie Knopp (Tyler), Jim Korsh (CST), Laurie MacPhail (Dent.), Joseph Schwartz (CLA), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), David Waldstreicher (Fac. Herald), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Jeffrey Draine (SSW)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 27, 2012 meeting were approved.

3. President’s Report

President LaFollette and Vice President Shapiro met with the Provost, with most of the discussion centering on the White Paper reorganizations and the Workload Policy. In the meeting the Provost insisted that he has not made any final determinations and that he will take faculty comments into account in making his final recommendations. He also indicated that the idea of merging all departments at the College of Education into one department came from within the COE faculty. With respect to the Workload Policy, LaFollette and Shapiro conveyed concerns regarding the meaning of the “five day presence” requirement, the strict limitations on NTT service and research, and the risk that workload policies will be selectively enforced. They also suggested that a thorough review of the role of NTT faculty – one that involves substantial input from NTT faculty themselves – may be in order.

4. Vice President’s Report

Vice President Shapiro reported that she contacted Professors Peters and Dossar, whom the FSSC had recently appointed to Senate committees, in order to make sure they were willing to continue in light of the draft Workload Policy’s limits on service by NTT faculty. Both individuals remain very committed to serving on their respective committees.

There have been some difficulties with the election procedures. The first email announcement regarding the election apparently went out only to TAUP members. That
mistake is being corrected, but to ensure that all have a chance to vote, the voting period will be extended to April 10, 2012.

5. FSSC Retreat

President LaFollette offered to arrange an informal FSSC retreat at his home. Members expressed approval for that idea.

6. Workload Policy

Karen Turner noted that the subcommittee on response to the Workload Policy has received some email comments but could use more input. She distributed a compilation of “Talking Points” regarding the Workload Policy that was based on comments the subcommittee has received so far. Turner suggested that all FSSC members keep a log of their activities over the next week, to get a sort of “snapshot” of what faculty service typically entails. In terms of how the FSSC should proceed, it was suggested that the FSSC should send a memorandum to the President and Provost stating our concerns. Turner asked members to send their comments either to her or to Joseph Schwartz by Monday April 9.

7. Reorganization

There was continued discussion of the Provost’s reorganization proposals. With respect to the proposal to create a Center for the arts, members expressed the view that we need to turn attention to “second level” issues of planning and implementation, which seem either not to have been given much attention by the administration, or else have not been disclosed. We also need to raise questions about what constitutes a sensible time frame for transition, and how various units will function during a transitional period. Representatives from some affected units reported that some administrative changes toward centralization of functions are already occurring. There was general agreement that the FSSC needs to prepare a memorandum of response to the Provost. Stephanie Knopp asked that comments and suggestions as to what should be covered in that memo should be sent to her.

8. Budget

President LaFollette reported that the Provost has apparently sent a flurry of materials to the Budget Review Committee, but he does not know what they contain. He will attempt to get additional information.

9. Faculty Governance

President LaFollette and James Korsh distributed a draft of a letter to President Hart regarding faculty governance issues. LaFollette will distribute the letter electronically, so that members may submit suggested changes.
It was observed that we have received no information about what will happen with regard
to the Provost’s position if Provost Englert steps down, as may occur this summer.
LaFollette will make inquiries.

10. Old Business

Controller Frank Annunziato will be a guest at the next Faculty Senate meeting to discuss
tavel policy.

There is a problem with thefts occurring in the Library. Apparently it has become so
common that students are being deterred from using the library facilities.

There is also an issue with the University refusing to release transcripts and other
credentials for graduates who are in default on student debt. Apparently this is a
nationwide university practice, which is occurring due to pressure from the federal
government. The faculty may need to address this practice at some point.

11. New Business

Associate Vice Provost Michele O’Connor will be contacting President LaFollette to seek
faculty participation in a group that will work on issues involved in Temple’s move to the
Big East athletic conference.

There was a question about whether merit determinations have been made. Evidently in
most schools and colleges faculty members have heard about merit from the Dean but not
from the Provost. The situation is similar for study leaves. There was a comment that it
seems late in the year for these matters still to be pending.

The Faculty Herald will be distributed on Thursday. It will include responses to the
reorganization proposals. Responses to the original White Paper will not be included,
since we have gone past that point.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Rahdert
Secretary