Was at the dentist this morning. He was talking about Temple’s proposed cuts. He said they should start with all the administrators….He’s at least the 5th person in the last month who’s said something to me about the number of administrators.”

--A faculty member in a private message to the editor

The conventional wisdom around universities is that the first to go among the faculty in a budget crunch are the adjuncts and the instructors on one year contracts. Problem is, they do so much of the teaching work that even though there are so many of them it is likely that only a marginal savings can be made by squeezing more out of fewer of them.

Then there is the option of raising presidential faculty course loads, as had been done here before. Many of us who came ca. 2004 as I did were warned Voting for Senate Elections is NOW Open

The voting site will remain active through Friday, April 1st, 5:00 PM. There is one ballot. It is for the election of Senate officers and members to the following Senate elected committees:
- Personnel Committee
- University Honors Program Oversight Committee
- University Tenure and Promotion Advisory Committee

To access the candidate statements/bios/CVs visit the senate website at http://www.temple.edu/senate/elections.htm

After reviewing the candidates’ information, click on the VOTE NOW link at the top of the Senate elections page to get to the ballot. The link to go directly to the elections ballot is https://atlas.ocis.temple.edu/facultysenate/AppDev

Any voting problems should be directed to Cheryl Mack, Senate Coordinator at senate2@temple.edu or 1-8698. The election results will be announced via the Faculty listserv on Monday, April 4th and at the April 14th University Senate meeting. Thank you in advance for voting.

Faculty Senate Steering Committee

Civic Realism: Art Meets Ecology

A Conversation with Alan C. Braddock
Assistant Professor, Tyler School of Art

On April 7-8, Temple will host GRID + Flow: Mapping and Reimagining Urban Ecologies through the Arts and Humanities, an interdisciplinary conference that is one of the results of a Provost’s seed grant proposed by Tyler School of Art’s Alan C. Braddock, SCT’s Film and Media Arts professor Peter D’Agostino, and historian Andrew Isenberg. Noted scholar of literature and environmental studies Timothy Morton (University of California, Davis) will give the keynote address, “Ecology and Philosophy in the Time of Hyperobjects,” Thursday evening, April 7, at 7pm in KIVA Auditorium, to be followed by a preview of D’Agostino’s exhibition, “World-Wide-Walks / between earth & water / Rivers,” a digital media event intended to demonstrate new ways of disseminating information about environmental issues in an interdisciplinary way. Friday’s day-long program will include papers by historians, art historians, environmental scientists, sociologists and geomorphers, among others. (For the complete program see http://www.temple.edu/institutes/gridflow/schedule.html)

I asked Alan how he came to reach out to colleagues in other disciplines to create this exciting project, which he hopes will lead to a book as well as D’Agostino’s digital media project. He said that the grant was D’Agostino’s

Academic Leadership in Hard Times Should Start with an Administrative Hiring Freeze

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Upcoming Faculty Symposium

The First Faculty Symposium on the Future of the University

Thursday, April 7, 2:30-4:30pm in Kiva Auditorium

What Happens to Shared Governance in Hard Times?

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Mary Burgan, author of What Ever Happened to the Faculty? Drift and Decision in Higher Education.

Her talk will be followed by a panel of Temple faculty and students including: Jane Evans, Judith Goode, Art Hochner, and Paul LaFollette

Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and the Faculty Herald Board with support from the University Provost.

Please RSVP senate2@temple.edu if you plan to attend.

Braddock continued on page 4
A Letter to the Editor

Déjà vu All Over Again?
Will Temple History Repeat Itself At The Health Sciences Center?

By Michael Sirover

“The trick in life is not to make mistakes, The trick in life is not to make the same mistake twice.” Anonymous

One of the virtues of age and of being at Temple University for a long time (since 1977) is that you have a sense of its history: the advantages and disadvantages of various policies as they have been implemented, and the subsequent consequences of those implementations. Recently, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees named Larry Kaiser, M.D., as the Senior Executive Vice President for Health Sciences, the Chief Executive Officer of the Temple University Health System and the Dean of the Temple University School of Medicine. Although the current faculty and the current Administration may consider this as a new and original type of appointment, in actuality it is virtually identical to that of Leon Malmud, M.D., to a similar position in 1988 by the Board of Trustees of that time.

Leon remains a personable individual, a delightful companion for lunch at a “futility table” in the hospital cafeteria and a dedicated physician still on staff across the street. As such Temples’ Dean for which continued a tradition where many individuals join this University in their youth, remain at Temple spending their careers making major contributions to its mission. That being said, Leon’s tenure in Dr. Kaiser’s position was mixed. Leon did a tremendous job with respect to the management of the Hospital and the Health System. Indeed, he was instrumental in the birth of the latter. In contrast, his efforts as Dean of the Medical School were not as stellar. As is the case today, there were major issues within the School at that time which demanded his full attention. Regrettably, they were dealt with inadequately with results that still echo today.

In Leon’s defense, the Hospital and the Health System have been continually in peril financially and each has required Herculean efforts by those in charge to maintain their viability. Those of us with institutional memory recall many such instances, most notably when the present hospital building was simply a hole in the ground for an extended time as repeatedly winter gave way to spring and to summer and when summer gave way to fall and to winter. At other times, they required a bailout from the coffers of the Main Campus. Leon’s tenure was no exception, requiring him to spend the vast majority of his time and effort on issues across the street. That the Hospital and Health System survived and prospered is a testimony to those efforts.

Thus, no matter how well intentioned, no matter how well meaning, no matter how much he may wish to perform each task well, Dr. Kaiser may need to prioritize his time, his efforts and his funds, i.e., Dr. Kaiser will need to wear one of his hats to a far greater degree than the others. It is reasonable to suggest that this will require his focus primarily on the Hospital and the Health System. Indeed, it has been mentioned that the reason why he was named to the Deanship was that, in order to deal effectively with the financial crisis across the street, it was necessary for him to be so named. If this assertion is true, that decision may come as a surprise to our medical students, who pay some $30 million annually in tuition ($40,000/student X 200 students/class X 4 classes) and whom graduate with significant debt, that they are a secondary priority for their current Dean. It would seem, given that investment of money, they would deserve a full time Dean. In that regard, although this writer disagreed (and continues to disagree strongly) with some of the previous Dean’s policies, John Daly, M.D., was first and foremost the Dean of the School of Medicine. His first priority was, as he saw it, the education of our students as well as the needs of our faculty so that they may fulfill their teaching, scholarship and service responsibilities.

As Daniel Patrick Moynihan noted a generation ago, benign neglect is not an effective strategy for dealing with institutional crises. Although, for the Medical School, it may be argued that the latter may be ameliorated by the appointment of a capable and outstanding deputy, that individual by definition will be a lieutenant whose requests would be balanced by other demands by the Senior Executive Vice President for Health Sciences (as a captain or general does routinely in the armed services or as a President of a University does with respect to the various colleges within it).

Why should faculty be concerned with events up here? Again, historically, the Medical School has been viewed with circumspection: our faculty is geographically isolated, does not participate to a great degree in undergraduate education, is not, for the most part, is not concerned with faculty issues and are not TAUP members. There are perhaps two main reasons for such a concern. First, if the Medical School will be a secondary priority for Dr. Kaiser, it’s reasonable to suggest that other schools within his portfolio will be tertiary priorities. The latter include the Schools of Nursing, Allied Health and Pharmacy. Each is intimately involved in undergraduate education, concerned with faculty issues and are TAUP affiliated. Second, Dr. Kaiser was appointed as Dean without using the customary mechanism for such an appointment. CATA was not consulted; a Search Committee including appropriate faculty representatives was not formed, nor was an open search conducted. When questioned at a Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting, President Hart cited her authority to name Dr. Kaiser as an “extraordinary circumstance,” i.e. his needing the position as current Dean to be able to effectively devise strategies to ameliorate the financial crisis at the Hospital (my explanation). There is an old saying, “If it can happen up there, it can happen down here.” Accordingly, the appointment of Dr. Kaiser, as a special circumstance, nevertheless establishes a precedent for other searches on other campuses. As main campus faculty express concern with respect to the presumed hidden agenda of the Huron Group, the former could be viewed as an early warning sign. As Ronald Reagan so famously noted, “Trust but verify.”

Dr. Michael Sirover is a Professor of Pharmacology at the School of Medicine, a member of the Faculty Herald Editorial Board, a Past President of the Medical Faculty Senate, a Former Secretary of the All University Faculty Senate and has the privilege of serving as the Chair of a National Cancer Institute Special Advisory Committee on Cancer Prevention.

Mining Our Own Acres: the Diamond Peer Teacher Program

As an adjunct at Temple over the past five years I’ve found myself complaining with other teachers about the quality of the average Temple student, perhaps to the point of cliché. Surely a large percentage of students don’t pay too much attention to the syllabus or to the assigned reading, but about every other academic year a remarkably superior Temple student has challenged my cynicism about the current state of education. Dr. Russell Conwell founded Temple University to mine local “diamonds,” and the Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies (SVPUS) offers a number of “Diamond Programs” faculty can use to polish exceptional students’ professional and academic facets. One such vehicle, the Diamond Peer Teacher Program, allows qualifying students to shadow a faculty mentor for a semester to experience the behind-the-scenes world of teaching a lower-level college course. I was fortunate enough to be selected as a mentor in the Diamond Peer Teacher Program when I was an instructor in Intellectual Heritage back in Spring of 2008, and I also recently had the great pleasure of speaking with the Diamond Program’s director, Dr. Emily Moerer. Dr. Moerer explained that the Diamond Peer Teacher Program is designed to facilitate “high impact activities that promote student engagement” using the Supplemental Instruction model. The SI model targets challenging lower-level courses that have low retention or high failure rates by training an exceptional student to act as peer instructional support. In the Diamond Peer Teacher Program a faculty mentor and SVPUS institutional support work together to guide a student through the process of teaching a college course in which they have previously excelled, with the expectation that the student will use those skills to offer supplemental instruction to the class. The peer teacher attends class as a “model student” whose goal is to encourage greater overall student participation and engagement with the course material by directing some class activities and being available to students for consultation outside of the classroom.

A Diamond Peer Teacher is not a teaching assistant or a tutor and has distinctive advantages over both positions. Peer teachers have already demonstrated success in their specific course section, they have previously experienced their mentor’s classroom dynamic, and they are socially closer to...
that this is contractually possible. But it would undermine Temple’s attempts to raise its research profile and no doubt lead to much time-consuming resistance on the part of the faculty. I would argue that it is the duty of the faculty, nevertheless, to start talking about how this ought to be done if it is necessary, rather than leaving it to deans and chairs to accomplish it at the last minute.

The last option we are likely to hear from the administration or its outside consultants is to cut non-essential administrative positions and stop hiring new administrators. But it is the one that most needs consideration. It is also the option most consistent with Temple’s traditions and its core mission.

Hard data on administrative hires is hard to come by. But no one who has been here long can fail to notice the profusion of vice presidents and their assistants at Temple. Individually, it might be hard to argue against these accomplished and very professional individuals. I myself have enjoyed getting to know them. Collectively, though, they represent a new and large set of expenses. They do things that contribute to making the university a better place but are arguably not essential to the university’s present mission of teaching and research. Their presence – and especially their salaries and perks - reflect the very expensive corporatization of the university which has made us vulnerable to the corporate types who now look to raid our budget in order to avoid raising taxes.

It could be argued that some government regulations make the hiring of some of these folks necessary. It could also be argued that many of the community oriented activities and programs that they manage contribute to the research and instructional mission of the University. It could also be argued that it is important for Temple to actively partake in and even be a leader in activities and programs that improve our communities – state, local, city, and country. However, if the existence of these programs is so little valued that our legislators see fit to cut $90,000,000 from Temple’s budget, all of these activities should be held in abeyance for the foreseeable future, the supporting staff let go, and the involved faculty have their energies redirected – perhaps to some of the extra courses that we may all be asked to teach.

Provost Dick Englert has shown a profound sensitivity to public opinion in asking us not to post the Budget Detail on line. (See the minutes of the Representative Senate for Jan. 24 and Feb. 15 in this issue and Phil Yannella’s article in our last issue). President Hart and Vice President Wagner have shown admirable PR savvy in response to the state appropriations. It is curious why they have not yet realized that the best way to demonstrate that we are serious about cutting costs is not to hire university architects or expand administrative apparatus – even if such moves follow the current corporate best practices of planning. When faced with sudden budget cuts because of state appropriation shortfalls in 2009, Provost Lisa Staiano-Coico announced a hiring and administrative pay freeze within her portfolio.

The administration instead seems to be putting its considerable creativity into more new positions such as the revived Presidential Faculty Fellows program (two instead of one), and a town meeting on “academic leadership” on April 11. (The new Presidential Faculty Fellows are Thomas Marino of SOM and Susan Jansen Varnum of CST. We have not heard much about their specific roles. But it seems safe to assume that they would be logical people to contact about the question of administrative costs at Temple.) Perhaps academic leadership should include a willingness to go against the conventional wisdom and not hire outside consultants and expensive headhunters and lawyers in order to replace administrators or to accomplish administrative goals that are within the considerable abilities of our current leadership… not to mention the faculty.

Appointed Senate Committee Vacancies as of June 30, 2011

To be considered by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee for an appointed Faculty Senate committee, please send a c.v. and a brief statement of interest to Senate2@temple.edu

Appointed Committees:

Bargaining Units Liaison Committee — Two Vacancies

Budget Review Committee — Four Vacancies

Committee for Administrative and Trustee Appointments — Seven Vacancies

Committee for International Programs — Four Vacancies

Committee on the Status of Women — Eight Vacancies

Lectures and Forums Committee — Seven Vacancies

Library Committee — Five Vacancies

Oversight Committee — One Vacancy

Presidential Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics — Two Vacancies

Student Award Selection Committee — One Vacancy
Braddock argues that the artist’s realism was not absolutely empirical, as some art historians have said, but rather a selective form of “civic realism” that filtered out the troubling signs of modernity in Philadelphia. Eakins got a lot of praise for his rowing scenes, such as The Champion Single Sculls, but Braddock points out what Eakins was avoiding: a crisis in water pollution that occupied Philadelphians and killed many of them, including his sister, who (like Abraham Lincoln’s son in the White House two decades earlier) died of typhus contracted from unclean drinking water. The less successful painting Swimming, which shocked Eakins’ boss at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, idealizes Eakins and friends skinny-dipping at a clean suburban retreat that was notably whiter than it had been before when Eakins painted it, at a time when the city’s prosperous folks were fleeing the industrial, increasingly polluted zones. Even the famous Gross Clinic, recently transferred across town from Jefferson Medical College to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, can be reinterpreted in light of civic realism. The heroic surgeon wielding his scalpel in front of the medical students disdains sanitary measures that were already being used by other surgeons, especially in Europe, where antiseptic principles in surgery had been promoted by Joseph Lister in an important article in The Lancet in 1867. It was not until 1889, in his second great medical portrait The Gross Clinic, that Eakins acknowledged such principles.

For his next major art history project Alan is investigating the “gun vision” of the late nineteenth- and early twentieth century avant-garde (itself a term adapted from the military language). Titled Gun Vision: The Ballistic Imagination in American Art, this new project explores interrelationships between art and arms, seeing and shooting, in American painting and visual culture around 1900. I asked Alan how this inquiry fits his hope that art historians might “reassess and redirect scholarly inquiry itself on some level, in the hope that this move would foster solutions through a transformation of environmental perception and historical understanding,” as he and co-editor Christopher Irmscher put it in the introduction to their collection of essays, A Keener Perception: Ecocritical Studies in American Art History (University of Alabama Press, 2009). In response to that question, Alan says that environmental history will play an important role in Gun Vision, in a chapter exploring photojournalistic media coverage of a sensational case of Buffalo poaching at Yellowstone, leading to the first U.S. endangered species legislation. Events such as that highlight an important late nineteenth-century semantic phenomenon: the migration of metaphors about “shooting” from the world of hunting into the world of photography and aesthetics. Braddock and Irmscher’s book itself provides something of an answer to the question of how scholars might put ecocriticism into practice. A note in the front matter tells readers that as part of a “Green Press Initiative,” the volume is 30% printed on recycled paper, saving “4 Trees... 1845 Gallons of Wastewater, 1 million BTUs of Total Energy, 112 Pounds of Solid Waste, [and] 383 Pounds of Greenhouse Gases.”

Mining Our Own Acres: The Diamond Peer Teacher Program

Diamond Peer from Page 2

The Diamond Peer Teacher Program offers thirty-eight positions per semester and thirteen of those slots are dedicated to GenEd courses. Any faculty member, including NTTs and adjuncts (but not “graduates”) may participate as a Diamond Peer Teacher mentor. Diamond Peer Teacher applicants must have earned an A- in the course and their major must be closely related to it, and they must have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.25 over 60 credit hours. The deadline for Fall 2011 has passed already, but the Spring 2012 deadline will come quickly next semester on September 15th. The field is highly competitive; Dr. Moerer said SVPUS gets around 150 applications per semester. Instructors receive a $500 bonus for participating, which may seem small, but students receive a $2250 stipend for the semester. This stipend gives them the possibility to take a break from the part-time job they likely need, and they can focus a little more on their long-term professional development. If you teach a class appropriate for the Supplemental Instruction model, I must recommend helping your best students apply for the Diamond Peer Teacher Program. For more information about the Diamond Peer Teacher Program and application materials, visit: http://www.temple.edu/vpus/opportunities/peerteacher.htm
The Faculty Herald remains dedicated to promoting a dialogue with and among the faculty of Temple University and invites readers to write the editor in response to anything in this or a previous issue, or on other topics of interest and import to Temple Faculty. New letters sent to the editor will be published to a prominent place on the Herald’s website (www.temple.edu/herald) within one or two weeks of the editor receiving them and will be included in the next issue of the Herald. Readers are also welcome to post comments on select articles presented on the new Faculty Herald blog at http://www.facultyherald.blogspot.com.

Letters to the editor should be emailed to David Waldstreicher at facultyherald@temple.edu.

Representative Faculty Senate Minutes, Jan. 24, 2011

Representative Senate Meeting
January 24, 2011
Minutes

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 1:47 pm.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of November 10, 2010 were approved as written.

President’s Report - Paul LaFollette:
The ad-hoc committee has finished its first draft of the new T & P Guidelines which has been posted online. President Hart has asked that faculty email her their comments and suggestions. Subsequently the T & P Guidelines Committee will meet to consider these suggestions and how they might or might not be incorporated.

On February 15th, a group of students will be going to Harrisburg to present a petition to the legislature. Faculty are encouraged to sign it if they wish to do so.

Vice-President’s Report - Joan Shapiro:
A list of vacancies for the elected and appointed committees has been provided by Cheryl Mack. There will be an election beginning March 28th for the elected committees. Please encourage others to apply or self-nominate for both types of committees. A statement of interest and CV should be sent to Senate2@temple.edu.

The nominating committee of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee for 2011 officers will consist of Senators Michael Jackson, Joan Delalic and Luke Kahlich.

President’s Report-Paul LaFollette:
President LaFollette opened the floor for comments and questions regarding the budget review being conducted by the Huron Group.

A question was posed regarding the make-up of the committee meeting with the Huron Group. Provost Dick Englert answered this question by saying that 1/3 of persons selected are outside of the Provost’s Portfolio and 1/3 are from the Provost’s Portfolio, but do not have faculty rank. The final 1/3 of the people on the committee are those with faculty rank including those who are academic administrators.

Tony Wagner said how much he has enjoyed working with Leroy Dubeck and says he brings a lot to the table and Tony Wagner said that he looks forward to Professor Dubeck’s input.

President LaFollette asked how much information is actually shared with Senator Dubeck. VP Wagner responded that the Town Hall is the forum for faculty to comment and respond.

He further continued that the teaching and research missions of the university should be uppermost in the discussions and deliberations. He feels that we need more information in order for faculty to participate in the process. He would like to see a partnership in these deliberations.

Senator Art Hochner, President of TAUP, stated that there is much information regarding the budget that has not been shared with faculty and in order for faculty to make an informed decision, much information would be very useful. However, in the past, when he has asked for some information, he has been told that Temple is not required to share that information. There are a number of questions that Senator Hochner has posed which he would like answered.

VP Tony Wagner responded that 16-17% of Temple funding comes from the Commonwealth so although this is very significant, if we take a cut it will be on 16-17% of our budget. As a result, VP Wagner does not feel that this is potentially as dire as it could be. If we take a $20M cut from the state that would be 2% of our budget. He feels that this is a testimony to how well things have been organized in the past.

Professor Philip Yannella (CLA) has been studying the budget at Temple, and at two other universities for studies he has been doing. He passed out a very interesting one page summarization of some interesting facts. He believes that the amount of the president’s and provost’s budget is very large as compared to the faculty budget.

He believes that the university budget should be sent out as a PDF to all faculty and staff.

Tony Wagner responded that the university budget is just over $1B. He said that much of the budget is for set costs. He says that Standard and Poor’s, and Moody’s do a strict analysis of the budget every year and that Temple fares satisfactorily. With the new dorm, the fees for the rooms and food service will cover the debt to build the facility. VP Wagner says that there is an operating margin that is important to have at various times. Temple has a credit rating. Temple is not a wealthy university. We are less expensive in tuition than Penn State and Pitt, so we compare favorably in this way.

Senator Deborah Howe asked Tony Wagner how one avoids a self-fulfilling prophecy by mentioning 30% cut being a possibility. She feels that the big concern is not what happens now, but what happens after March 8th when the Huron Group leaves? More than anything else, we want to be part of the dialogue and we do not want to have things imposed on us.

VP Englert said that under Ken Lawrence a number of things are going on towards influence in Harrisburg so that there will be fewer cuts, with the goal being none. On March 9th, we’ll have a good sense of what the problems will be and that creates the dynamic of moving forward.
Representative Faculty Senate Minutes, Jan. 24, 2011
Minutes 01/24 from page 5

Senator Greg Urwin (CLA) mentioned that the email addresses of the Huron Group are sfreedman@hurongroup.com and wienkins@huronconsultinggroup.com Even if not on the committee of 90, there is still the opportunity to voice concerns.

VP Englert said how lucky Temple is to have someone like Tony Wagner and his group to tussle with these issues.

Guest – Leroy Dubeck, Chair of the Faculty Senate Budget Committee
Two simultaneous issues; the university will no doubt receive a cut, and also it is important to look at the Health Sciences operation. The basic problem that we have in our health system is the inordinate number of Medicaid payments. For the last two years, the Health Sciences Center has lost money; they have gone down for about $5M a year which looks like it will be more this year and even worse next year.

They are not separate from Temple. There are funds that go back and forth between the main university and the Health Sciences Complex. The Medical School is included in the main budget. This is not a trivial issue.

VP Wagner mentioned that Senator Dubeck has an extremely good understanding of all of the numbers at the university including the health system and Temple University at large. They are staffed and budgeted for a Trauma I Medical Center. Since a tremendous number of people are on Medicaid, the payment is a fraction of the costs. There is a high level of concern and lot of action that is being taken to try to ameliorate the situation. VP Wagner said that he believes that it will break even. Part of the ongoing strategy has been to spend money on equipment that will attract patients who might use them and who can pay for their health care.

Professor Dubeck says that $2.5 billion might be the problem at the state legislature, so you either raise taxes or cut the budget. There is little chance of raising taxes. If there is a 10% cut, Senator Dubeck feels that Higher Education might experience higher than 10% of the cuts. It would be a surprise if what the governor recommends actually is what happens, because the legislature gets involved. He feels that the faculty and students have to push back against the recommendations.

At other institutions, buy-outs have been offered to faculty. This is voluntary. At Texas A & M, 400 faculty members took advantage of this opportunity. This is obviously a great savings to the university because then others can be hired for less. At other places, tuition has been increased and faculty workloads have been increased.

Across the country, universities have raised tuition, used reserves, and/or cut expenditures.

On March 8th, the governor makes his announcement and then the legislature begins debate.

VP Englert says that we need to look at this as a multi-year rather than one-year issue.

VP Wagner says that the way the university has positioned itself means that we will be better than draconian cut. We are looking at a multi-year strategy. He wants this process to be looking towards the future and what will happen in succeeding years. This process is a multi-year program strategy about how we get to the right place and gain our momentum.

VP Wager says that we should all be at our battle stations with a high degree of vigilance. If we have a vision for a bright future for Temple, we are going to be able to make that vision happen.

Professor Dubeck disagrees in that he feels this is a major and significant problem until we know what the governor will do and what will happen at the Health Sciences Center.

VP Joan Shapiro mentioned to the Huron Group and wishes to mention it again that now we should be thinking about the five and ten year plan. She spoke of the need for us to go back to the Academic Strategic Compass. She suggested we need to lobby and do what we can, and if possible, relate it to the compass. She encourages everyone to take a look at the compass and see how this financial situation will impact it.

VP Englert reiterated what VP Shapiro just stated. He feels that the Academic Compass must be emphasized. We have to think in terms of multi-year and in terms of positioning ourselves for a new and better future. We still have the ability to control our own destiny.

Roberta Sloan made an announcement about the Arts Reception.

Old and New Business:
There being no old and new business, there was a call for adjournment.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.

Representative Faculty Senate Minutes, Feb. 15, 2011

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at 1:49pm.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of January 24, 2011 were approved as written.

President Paul LaFollette introduced President Ann Hart:
President Ann Hart gave a report on the contingent of students who accompanied Ken Lawrence for a rally in Harrisburg. She said our students were respectful and eloquent. She said that we should be really proud of our students. We had the largest contingent of students in Harrisburg of any university. Ken Lawrence meets regularly with student leaders and this helps our students to become citizens working towards the greater good of Temple University.

Penn State’s tuition is now 35% more expensive than that of Temple University. President Hart is concerned that there is a rumor floating about that all of the state funding to commonwealth universities will be cut by the state government. This would have far reaching disastrous effects for Temple.

President Hart said that the university will work closely with the governor’s office to try to impact the budget. Apparently, the budget will be a surprise in its final form on March 8th. After the announcement, the whole Temple Government Team and President Hart plan to spend quite a bit of time in Harrisburg with the goal of preserving as much of the appropriation allotted to Temple as possible. The 7.7 million dollars of Stimulus money has gone away. President Hart said that the budget is going to be very “painful” and so the new administration in Harrisburg is promising an on-time budget, perhaps to limit discussion and changes. She said that now is the time to advocate rather than wait until the appropriation is announced.
VP Englert spoke to the students who were leaving for Harrisburg this morning and asked each if they had spoken to their professors about getting excused absences. He thanked the faculty for understanding the need for the students to go to Harrisburg.

A CD from Temple was nominated for a Grammy. It did not win, but even being nominated was quite a success. Congrats to Fox School named #1 for the publication of their two journals.

Dr. Larry Alford has been named the head of the University of the Toronto Library, which is one of the premier libraries in North America, if not beyond. He praised Dean Alford’s contributions to Temple.

The 20/20 plan for the Health Sciences has already kicked off. That initiative will go on for eight to nine months and many aspects will be looked at very carefully.

He then turned to the three motions that had been passed by the FSSC. He announced that he had said “yes to two of the motions, however, he said “no” to the third.

Referred to the request that the university budget be put online, VP Englert does not feel it is in “our best interest” to have detailed budget items floating around. He does not feel that it is a good idea to make it public. It is in the library. He stated that the approved university budget is online. The financial statement that the university issue is online. He also stated the “the response” that Temple University prepares for the legislature, which is required to be filed and contains certain financial information, is also online. He stated that all of this is “in context.” He feels that taking individual lines out of context is a dangerous idea.

He pledges that he and Tony Wagner will meet regularly with the Faculty Senate Budget Review Committee throughout the budgetary process. He stated that often there is limited trust and rampant rumors when there is anticipation of funding cuts. He feels that putting the budget online gives people the possibility of criticizing it out of context.

He thanked Art Hochner for his work with TALON.

Professor Art Hochner, President of TAUP, pointed out that everything on the website regarding the budget is completely out of date. The online budget is the one developed for 2009-2010. He added that the information reported to the state legislature, which is online, is also outdated. He stated that “everything online is outdated” except for the budget statement of the university year which ended in 2010.

Professor Hochner pointed out that he felt that the budget should be widely available throughout the university and that it can be protected by a password. He feels that there is a lot that we need to know. He is not worried about people finding out about the budget because it is often available in other states. He feels it should not be restricted to one copy in the library. In his opinion, the Faculty Senate Budget Review Committee does not communicate enough with the faculty at large and often gives information only in broad terms. He feels that there is a lot of information that needs to be brought to light. In the current budget there is an accumulated surplus of $175 million dollars in the operating budget. We should all have the answers as to where the money is. He does not feel class sizes should be increased or that the numbers of adjuncts need to be increased. He believes that there are other areas where cuts can be made, if necessary.

VP and Provost Englert said he was unaware that the documents online were out of date. He will check and make sure they will be updated.

Professor Bob Aiken (CST) wondered if a compromise could be worked out on the availability of the budget document in the library. He suggested that

Temple is working hard with Senator Casey and will meet with Senator Toomey to pass the bill that will help hospitals such as Temple Hospital, which serves so many of the Philadelphians who do not have insurance and depend upon Medicaid.

Changes are being made at the Health Sciences Center in order to try to improve what is done at the hospitals. Some of the changes are going to be tough, but this is happening all over the nation to academic health centers and health care providers. She said that the university is working very hard to make improvements.

President Hart reviewed the process of how the new Health Sciences CEO and the Dean of the Medical School positions were combined. She said that our health sciences are poorly integrated with the medical school and at this time, with this new position combining the Health Sciences Center and the Medical School will, hopefully, greatly improve the situation. She wants the Health Sciences operation to be transparent and effective.

Professor Art Hochner (Fox School of Business and President of TAUP) came to the microphone and said that he spent yesterday in Harrisburg, speaking with the appropriation committee members and other committees members. He feels that the basic message that needs to be communicated is that an appropriation cut will have a negative impact on our students. He said that an increase in tuition would be the likely result of a large cut back in appropriations and that would be extremely detrimental to the students and their families.

Professor Hochner said that at this time, no one seems to know what is happening in the governor’s office. He feels that some information might be leaked to the Republican side of the house before March 8th. He’s heard that the governor is taking a very hard stance on “no raising of taxes,” so we might need to prepare for a lot of difficulties. We have a lot to protect, primarily our students and the jobs of many Temple Employees, so he urges faculty, staff and students to take action.

President Hart feels that if arms are linked and we all move forward together, it will have a positive effect. There is a lot of support for higher education, but there seems to be a large “but” that comes after that sentence. President Hart thanked everyone for the support they have shown.

President’s Report – Paul LaFollette:

President LaFollette wished to speak about what the FSSC has been doing lately.

He began his remarks by saying that while the FSSC certainly appreciates the work of Senior Vice Provost of Faculty Affairs and Development, Diane Maleson, on her revision of the bylaws. However, the FSSC had some difficulties with the draft that she presented at the FSSCProvost retreat. A subcommittee of the FSSC has produced a document entitled, “Guiding Principles for Collegial Assembly Bylaws” which will be posted online, and was passed out at the meeting.

At the last session, the FSSC passed three motions which were also passed out. These had previously been given to Vice President and Provost, Richard Englert, for his response. President LaFollette then turned the meeting over to Englert to respond directly to the motions that were passed.

Dialogue with Dick: Report from Vice President and Provost, Richard Englert:

VP Englert announced that former provost Barbara Brownstein just passed away. She was from the biology department. He feels that she was a terrific colleague and a wonderful provost. She retired in 1995 and moved to the West Coast. There will be some kind of memorial for her in March, in Philadelphia. He asked for a few moments of silence in her memory.
Representative Faculty Senate Minutes, Feb. 15, 2011

Minutes 02/15 from page 7

the FSSC should be given a copy and perhaps some other units should have copies as well. He suggested a compromise might be amenable to all concerned. His second point was that since budget matters are ultimately going to be revealed, it might be a good idea that these points, particularly the ones that are time sensitive should be shared with the FSSC. He stated that he feels that there will be issues that will need an immediate response from the faculty that can be facilitated through the FSSC. He feels that transparency and collaboration would be served by using this methodology during these difficult times.

Senator Deborah Howe (SED) said that the reality is that someone can scan the document in the library and make it available online. She suggested that the university do this instead.

Professor Marina Angel (Law School) said that she is a great believer in sunshine laws. Apparently there is an exception for Temple and some other universities. She feels that there is no reason not to make the budget available. She mentioned that most states have complete openness on university budgets. She asked if it is the administration’s position that “are infants and don’t know how to deal with information.” She stated that she feels VP Englert’s arguments don’t hold up.

VP Englert says that he will take these comments under advisement. He says he “hears what is being said,” and believes the Faculty Senate has heard what he has said and thanked everyone for their attention.

Philip Yanella (CLA) then spoke to VP Englert and those present at the Representative Faculty Senate meeting. He stated that he has a scanned copy of the budget. He added that the budget details are not on the website. He pointed out an item under the President’s budget – 2.4 million for “other general expenses” which include food and entertainment. He stated that he does not feel that Temple faces a budget crisis. He feels, after examining the budget in detail, that there is $60 million dollars available.

VP Englert says that he feels it is important to look at the line items in context. He says that budgets are best understood in context.

Professor Yanella asked “what is the context for team holiday expenses?” VP Englert responded that taking items out of context is not the best way to approach the budget situation. He said that he respects the fact that Professor Yanella is analyzing the budget and looking at it carefully. VP Englert does not want faculty “to jump to conclusions.”

VP Englert said that he is always willing to come to meetings and have conversations.

Vice-President’s Report – Joan Shapiro:

Cheryl Mack has attached the committee vacancies list to the material passed out at the Representative Faculty Meeting. VP Shapiro requested that everyone try to contact faculty members to apply for open positions. All that is needed is a “Statement of Interest” and a CV. There are both elected positions to be filled and also committee vacancies that are appointed after applications are received. Of immediate need are committee members for the “Student Awards Selection Committee.” An election will begin March 28th. FSSC members Joan Delalic (Engineering), Luke Kahlich (BCMD), and Michael Jackson (STHM) are on the FSSC nominating committee.

President LaFollette:

President LaFollette invited comments about the university matrix. Senator Jim Korsch (CST) said that in his department, the 1 hour 20 minutes format, twice a week, is the best way to present material and that is only allowable in the matrix on Tuesdays and Thursdays. He feels that the matrix does not allow for the needs of some classroom information delivery.

Chris Cagle (SCT) said, for pedagogical reasons, many arts departments demand non-traditional time slots. He feels that the matrix has forced departments into formats that have sometimes not met the needs of the students and their departments.

Senior Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies Peter Jones stated that he needs for faculty and departments to work with the matrix as it now exists. He believes that veering away from the matrix has a negative impact on time-to-graduation rates. He stated that at the present time, Temple has a 38% four-year graduation rate and a 68% six-year graduation rate. He believes that being off matrix is part of the problem. He stated that before the matrix was required, many students were unable to put together semesters of sufficient credits to graduate in time. He stated that half of the courses are off-matrix and that number is way too high. He continued that Temple has 25 years of off matrix requests. These have accumulated. He stated that there are significant variations between colleges and schools. He asked that colleges and schools really look at courses and see how many really need to be off-matrix. He stated that changes don’t need to be draconian but we should try to improve graduation rates. We should make it possible for students to take 15-18 credits. He asked the faculty to look at the matrix in terms giving students “a chance.”

A faculty member from SCT stated that the whole concept of “Inquiring Learning,” takes an “amazing” amount of time. As a result, the concept of 45 or 50 minutes, strictly because it is more convenient, does not make sense. He was shocked that all of a sudden, with no notice, he had to restructure his courses. He asked “why can’t the faculty be involved in a major pedagogical change?”

Professor Eugene Kwatny (CST) stated that he feels that the one and one half hour class format is best. He also spoke of the classes associated with labs that were 2 hours. He said that all of this made it hard to schedule students. But he said we need to take a serious look at how we do schedule students and how we implement that schedule with approval at all levels. He argued that there needs to be a simpler process.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sloan, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate Secretary

For an archive of Faculty Senate Minutes, go to: http://www.temple.edu/senate/minutes.htm

Audio Recordings of these and other Senate Meetings may be found at: http://www.temple.edu/senate/Apreso/FacultySenateApresoRecordings.htm
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