

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, September 24, 2013
Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Present: Mark Rahdert (Pres.), Tricia Jones (Vice Pres.), Paul LaFollette (Secy.), Joan Shapiro (Past-Pres.), Li Bai (Engr), Cheri Carter (SSW), Forrest Huffman (FSBM), Michael Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Jim Korsh (CST), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald), Michael Sachs (CHP), Joseph Schwartz (CLA), Karen M. Turner (SMC), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Deborah Howe (SED), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Robert Reinstein (Law), Catherine Schifter (COE), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes were approved as submitted.

President's Report:

Mike Sitler and Vice President Tricia Jones are working on the retreat agenda.

All faculty should have received an invitation to the Presidential Inauguration. They need to RSVP, and should use the web link provided in the invitation to do so. This will allow them to receive emails of instruction from those planning the event that are specific to faculty. Rahdert believes that it is important that there be a strong faculty presence. President Theobald plans to lay out his agenda for Temple in the speech.

Herald Editor Newman stated that Karen Clarke had been very responsive to his questions about the event. He has been told that President Theobald will personally invite holders of named professorships and recipients of the Great Teachers award.

It was requested that we all make sure that our respective schools and colleges have forwarded their choices for the Service Award to the Senate Office.

Rahdert announced the following invited guests:

- Oct. 1 - Provost Dai
- Oct. 15 - Vice Provost Diane Maleson
- Oct. 29 - Interim Senior Vice President Tilghman Moyer (Institutional Advancement)
- Nov. 5 - Vice Provost Zebulon Kendrick
- Nov. 12 - Kevin Clark and Karen Clarke (Athletics)
- Nov. 19 - Robert Lux (CFO Temple Hospital)

Other possible guests include Istvan Varkonyi (GenEd), Professor Hoffman from the Law School who helped reverse engineer the US News process. We are also waiting to hear from President Theobald about a visit to us.

We next had a discussion of various agenda items for the upcoming Senate meeting. Suggestions included

- A report on the degree of success of the Electronic SFF's
- Current status of the development of guidelines for online learning
- The new calendar and discussion of how faculty can be involved in its implementation
- The Academic Planning Committee
- A discussion of what influence faculty committees actually have
- A report on "where the money goes." But this is probably for a later meeting. There are unanswered questions about RCM. RCM uses current budgets as a base. Do we still have the large surplus reported a couple semesters ago by Yannella? If so, what effect will that have on RCM?
- What is the status of the review of deans? When will it happen?
- How can we encourage best practices for forming budget review committees?
- How can we encourage development of better collegial assembly bylaws?

There followed a discussion of the purpose of the Senate budget committee.

Guest: Vice Provost Jodi Laufgraben

Vice Provost Laufgraben gave a presentation explaining the composition, purpose, and functioning of the newly forming Academic Planning Advisory Committee. She explained that this committee will evaluate new courses and programs after they have received all other required attention, and will only be looking at whether these programs and courses are appropriately offered by the bodies proposing them, and whether they contribute to unnecessary duplication or competition between schools and colleges. Her power point slides (appended to these minutes) provide a good summary of her presentation.

There will be a web page created which will, at designated times, describe all new courses and programs under consideration and allow for full discussion of these new courses and programs by the entire Temple community. There was a bit of discussion as to whether it would be possible for anonymous comments to be posted. This was not resolved.

Another discussion developed over the effect that changing names or details of existing courses has on lab fees.

Asked why this new committee is needed in addition to EPPC, Laufgraben explained that EPPC only looks at courses and programs that affect more than one school or college. This means that as a practical matter, EPPC only looks at interdisciplinary programs. It was pointed out that a program in college A that directly competes with a program in college B clearly affects more than one college and that perhaps EPPC should be looking at those as well. The committee will consist of 5 or 6 faculty, Peter Jones, Zeb Kendrick, and Vice Provost Laufgraben. Two of the faculty will be chosen by the Provost from a slate presented him by the FSSC. The remaining three will be chosen directly by the Provost.

Substantial discussion developed about this composition. Various people suggested that:

- The committee needs more faculty presence
- The committee needs to represent as many schools/colleges as possible
- The committee should have more members from larger schools
- The committee should have more members from smaller schools
- More of the faculty should be recommended by the FSSC
- Some of the faculty should be directly chosen by the FSSC

Vice Provost Laufgraben agreed to further consider these proposals, but gave various explanations as to why some of them had already been considered and rejected.

One member noted that among the eleven volunteers already received, there are no representatives of the arts.

Finally, Rahdert proposed that the FSSC chose four faculty members and the Provost three, with the hope that the provost will use his three choices to find representation for under-represented disciplines. This compromise will be considered.

A member asked how the committee will train.

Answer: They will work with old proposals representing a wide spectrum of acceptability.

It was suggested that RCM may encourage the development of programs of lesser quality. Will this committee have a mechanism to avoid this?

A member mentioned that increasing time to graduation is exacerbated by students' ability to self register without seeing an advisor.

Answer: Programs can already require an advisor's signature for registration through Banner. Also, Banner will soon show an upgraded DARS to the students as they register.

Vice President's Report

We agreed to send forth all 11 of our volunteers for the new Academic Program Advisory Committee.

Newman made the following motion:

That the FSSC attempt to get more names from the arts by Thursday at noon and post their credentials on the FSSC listserv. If no objections are received, they will be forwarded to the Provost as additional recommendations.

The motion was seconded and carried.

We approved the following committee appointments:

- Wilbert Roget to International Programs
- Wilbert Roget to Faculty of Color
- Howard Spodek to International Programs

The volunteer for EPPC has promised to forward his Statement of Interest to the Senate office.

Old Business:

We spent some time discussing the draft letter prepared by Newman, Korsh, and Solow. Several suggestions for improvement were offered. The committee will address those suggestions in a new draft.

We agreed that nothing will be done with this letter until we have had the opportunity to hear the Provost.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM

Paul S. LaFollette, Jr – Secretary