

**Faculty Senate Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 5, 2013**

**Attendance:**

**Present:** Mark Rahdert (Pres.), Tricia Jones (Vice Pres.), Paul LaFollette (Secy.), Joan Shapiro (Past-Pres.), Li Bai (Engr), Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Cheri Carter (SSW), Deborah Howe (SED), Michael Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Jim Korsh (CST), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald), Catherine Schifter (Educ), Joseph Schwartz (CLA), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Matthew Miller (TFMA)

**Absent:** Forrest Huffman (FSBM), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Robert Reinstein (Law), Michael Sachs (CHP), Karen M. Turner (SMC) Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM.

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes were approved as corrected.

**3. President's Report – Mark Rahdert:**

President Rahdert reported that he had met with Patrick O'Connor, chairman of Temple's Board of Trustees. They discussed the following items:

- Increased faculty participation on Board committees. Chairman O'Connor will talk to the various board members about encouraging more active participation by faculty observers.
- The health system. This is one of our major challenges. The Board is looking for solutions.
- Access. The Board is committed to Temple's historic mission. It is a major part of why Temple is here.
- He would be happy to meet either with the FSSC or with the University Senate. He also suggested that we invite the Chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board, Judge McKee.

Rahdert will meet this week with the Provost. There is a request for the creation of a CHART task force (to address student substance abuse issues.) Rahdert proposed that this be made one of the Senate's standing committees.

Last semester we prioritized developing a more satisfactory ombudsperson system. We will discuss next week who might serve on a small ad hoc committee to specify the characteristics such a system should embrace.

The Service Brunch will be next week, Nov. 12 from 11:00-1:30. This will be followed by a meeting of the FSSC with the athletics director.

A suggestion was made that we need to look at the quality of life and safety for our faculty. Rahdert responded that representatives of Campus Safety will be invited to meet with us early next semester.

This was followed by some discussion about ways to enhance building security.

The suggestion was made that, at a future meeting, we set aside time to debrief ourselves about the retreat.

#### **4. Vice President's Report – Tricia Jones:**

Catherine Panzarella is very interested in being liaison between the Senate Budget Committee and the University Budget Planning Committee.

We have received approval from Jodi Laufgraben to contact applicants to the APAC and offer some of them the opportunity to serve on the Research and Creative Awards Committee. Jones has received an amazingly large group of positive responses. We approved

- 1) Dan Liebermann – TUSM
- 2) Tim McDonald – Tyler
- 3) Deborah Nelson – CHPSW

to serve on the Research and Creative Awards Committee

We need to appoint one more person for the UP&TC to replace Doug Wager. This person can come from SMC, CHPSW, Tourism & Hospitality, Boyer, Tyler, or FMA.

#### **5. Guest: Zebulon Kendrick – Vice Provost Graduate School**

Vice Provost Kendrick began his presentation with a discussion of the process of creating new graduate programs, and some ideas of possible approaches to identifying new “Professional”/Workforce Master’s Degree Programs. His power point slides, attached to these minutes, provide a good summary of his presentation.

Several questions arose during the presentation.

Q: Does each college have some flexibility in setting tuitions structures?

Answer: After July 1, “you take the risk, you get the money.”

An FSSC member commented that in many cases, RCM seems to inhibit collaborative programs, but in the programs mentioned by Kendrick it seems that RCM will actually help.

A discussion developed about University Fellowships. The practice has been to require departments who offer a fellowship that is not accepted to turn those fellowships back to the Graduate School to possibly be offered to other departments. In the past, a large percentage of the fellowships offered have not been accepted. One member suggested that if we were able to offer fellowships to adequately but not optimally qualified students we would get a better level of acceptance.

Kendrick reminded us that after the financial problems began, the number of fellowships available dropped to a low of 32. It is now back up to 54. This might well go down under RCM.

Q: How many funded PhD students are at Temple?

Answer:

- 203 RA's from grants.
- 800 TA's
- 96 Fellowships

A discussion developed about maintaining high quality in new master's degree programs, especially given the pressures of RCM, and the role of the APAC in maintaining that quality.

Q: Can you (Kendrick) think of any cases where Kendrick or Jones vetted a program before the program had been approved.

Ans: Yes, for instance the MS in IST in the CST. This program was not approved until the Deans of CST and FSBM had talked with each other enough to be comfortable with it.

A member suggested that APAC comes late in the approval process. We need to find a way of raising flags earlier. The suggestion was that those proposing a program have an affirmative responsibility to identify potential sources of overlap.

In response to a discussion of some of our graduate students' poor English skills, Kendrick announced that we can now use the Pearson Test of English instead of TOEFL. The Pearson test is widely available, and includes a photograph and thumbprint of the person taking the test. It appears to be more reliable than TOEFL.

There was a discussion of the difficulties of adequately staffing some programs. One problem is that there is a hard limit as to how many courses an adjunct may teach. Some of our excellent adjuncts in some schools have only master's degrees and thus cannot be hired as NTT's.

Q: What kind of changes in programs require a new round of approvals?

Ans; Approval is only required if the change converts a required course into an elective or *vice versa*.

**6. Old Business:**

None

**7. New Business:**

None

**8. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 PM

Paul S. LaFollette, Jr.  
Secretary