

**University Faculty Senate  
Meeting Minutes  
December 6, 2013**

**Attendance:**

Representative senators and officers: 42  
Ex-officios: 1  
Faculty, administrators, and guests: 45

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:50 PM

After calling the meeting to order, President Rahdert reminded us of the difference between the Faculty Senate and the Representative Senate.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the May 23, 2013 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

**President's Report:**

President Rahdert reported on the activities of the FSSC. They have met weekly and recently passed three resolutions. This semester's guests of the FSSC include:

- President Theobald
- Provost Dai
- CFO Ken Kaiser who presented more information about RCM
- Vice Provost Peter Jones with whom we discussed eSFF's
- Vice Provost Laufgraben who explained the new Academic Programs Advisory Committee
- Robert Lux, CFO of the Temple Health System
- Senior Vice Provost Maleson
- Director of Athletics Kevin Clark

The FSSC also participated in a retreat with the Provost and the Council of Deans, and sponsored this year's Service Awards Brunch.

Next semester, the FSSC plans to coordinate with Temple Student Government and continue their efforts to strengthen shared governance.

**Vice President's Report:**

Vice President Jones reminded us that our faculty are very active in service. Eighteen percent of our faculty sit on various Senate committees. She discussed plans to improve communications between our various committees and the FSSC. She finished by noting the passing of Nelson Mandela and reminding us that what we do matters, what we have is only dreamt of in other parts of the world.

**Guest – President Theobald**

President Theobald began by saying that on his arrival here, he discovered several issues in the Athletics Department:

- There was imbalance in Title IX
- Baseball and Women's Soccer practice at Ambler as there are no appropriate facilities for them near main campus

- Our rowing team uses a tent on Kelly drive
- Track and Field has no place to practice javelin and discus

He accordingly asked Kevin Clark to do a review of the Title IX issues, the 90 minute commute between Ambler and main campus, and our lack of infrastructure to support rowing and field events.

The following recommendations arose from this review:

We must either increase our athletics budget or re-allocate spending. We already have the third highest spending in our conference. Sport by sport, however, we are below average in every sport because we have 29 different sports. The median in our conference is 19.

Clark recommended eliminating 5 men's sports, baseball, crew, gymnastics, and indoor and outdoor track and field. He also recommended ending women's softball and rowing. All student athletes in these programs will keep their scholarships and continue to have access to academic support. We will also create a soccer field near main campus and, where possible, convert these sports to "club sports".

Q: What will happen to the land at Ambler?

A: This will be a major part of the Academic Planning report

Q: Temple was not included in the USA Today survey of spending on athletic programs because Temple did not comply with their request for information. Will there be more information forthcoming about our athletics budget?

A: President Theobald has no objection to more transparency. Our budget is 44.2 million dollars. Rutgers charges a \$500.00 student fee to support athletics. President Theobald does not favor doing this at Temple.

Q: How much subsidy does Temple give to our athletics programs?

A: Six to eight million dollars. The average in our conference is closer to 10 million dollars.

Q: There is concern about interdisciplinary work and how RCM will affect that. There are funds that could go to faculty hires. Please talk about how these funds will be applied in ways that encourage the sharing of faculty, students, and research.

A; If we do not take action to deal with interdisciplinary issues, we will have serious problems. We need to take specific actions. We will have seven million dollars each year allocated in the budget conference to "common good" programs. Also, the 50 million dollars is a one time deal and will not be used for hiring.

Q: We all share the goals of increasing our excellence and also fulfilling our traditional mission. We seem to be increasing our merit based aid for undergraduates. How will this affect our need based aid?

A: The president is a proponent of merit based aid. He believes there should be some benefit for doing well in high school. It is very difficult to have an excellent faculty without a strong student body. We are very close to developing a strategy to shorten the time to degree for our undergraduates.

Q: What about football? Why not get rid of that?

A: The Board of Trustees has voted not to get rid of football.

Q: Why?

A: It is important to our alumni, it keeps our alums connected, it is an important marketing tool, and it makes money.

Q: Basketball is also good marketing, and it is cheap.

A: We are already maxed out in our support of basketball.

Q: What are our plans for dealing with the outflow of money from main campus to the health system at a rate of 50 million dollars/year? How will Obama care affect our health system?

A: The state gives 140 million dollars to Temple. Of that, 70 million goes to the health system, and 70 million goes to main campus. The School of Medicine is 20% of the university. Also, money flows from the hospital to the HSC. We are not subsidizing the Medical School, nor are we subsidizing the hospital.

The Affordable Care Act will decrease funding for Medicaid and increase insurance for the working poor. Fifty-three percent of our patients are Medicaid patients so we will lose.

Comment: Temple could do a better job of publicizing the accomplishments of our faculty. Our bookstore has way too few non-textbooks. A visitor to the bookstore would have no way of knowing that we have a university press.

A: We are already trying to refocus a part of our book store. The current model is to outsource university bookstores. Last month we turned over negotiations with the bookstore and with the dining facilities to Kevin Clark.

Comment: Eliminating football would do serious damage to the Boyer College of Music and Dance because it would eliminate the pep band.

Q: There are two important issues at this time for the faculty. One is the upcoming review of deans with faculty involvement in the process. We are pleased to know that this is going to happen. The other is the decentralizing of the budget process. Could you give a sense, based on your experience, of what constitute best practices for faculty involvement in this process. Also, when will we know the algorithms that will be used to decide on the taxes imposed on schools and colleges?

A: (President Theobald) Best practice is when the process matches the culture of the school. In each case, meaningful faculty involvement is necessary.

A: (Kaiser) The algorithms are set and have been shared with the deans. The CFO website has a link that shows how the algorithms will work.

Q: We have little way of knowing what is going on in schools and colleges other than our own. Perhaps we could publish all PhD topics as students graduate. Also create a more comprehensive list of activities on campus.

A: The president is frustrated by the university web site. Kevin Clark is heading a task force on the web site.

Q: Our first year writing project is taught mostly by NTT's on one year contracts. They feel vulnerable.

A: Job security is important. The President and Provost agree that we should offer more multi-year contracts.

Q: Someone has noted that all of your six goals are goals for inside Temple. What about goals for our larger community?

A: We do a pretty good job. We make jobs, provide health care. The president has been surprised by negative comments from the community. We need to be cognizant of community needs and we are. If he were to make up a 7<sup>th</sup> commitment on the fly it would be something like "We are committed to being partners in education, healthcare and economic development."

Q: Will you make available an organizational hierarchy chart for Temple?

A: Yes.

Q: Is it possible to generate a diversity profile?

A: Such a study is underway.

Q: What new policies and procedures are happening with regard to security?

A: Many doors in Anderson and Gladfelter are now alarmed. A task force is actively looking at more steps to take.

Q: Who is responsible for the buildings and their security?

A: The university, not the deans.

Q: Why are there so many Temple T's without black squares bordering them?

Q: The Smith group has not yet met with the faculty at Ambler. We would love to talk with them.

A: An email went out last week seeking advice from Ambler faculty.

**Concluding remarks from President Rahdert:**

Plans for online education will be announced soon.

A plan for improving four year graduation rates will also soon be announced.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 PM

Paul S. LaFollette, Jr.

Senate Secretary