

**Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, February 4, 2014
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Mark Rahdert (Pres.), Tricia Jones (Vice Pres.), Paul LaFollette (Secy.), Joan Shapiro (Past-Pres.), Li Bai (Engr), Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Deborah Howe (SED), Forrest Huffman (FSBM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Jim Korsh (CST), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald), Michael Sachs (CHP) Joseph Schwartz (CLA), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Karen M. Turner (SMC), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Cheri Carter (SSW), Michael Jackson (STHM), Robert Reinstein (Law), Catherine Schifter (Educ)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of January 28, 2014 were approved as written.

President's Report:

President Rahdert had several announcements:

- Cheryl Mack would like all of our cell phone numbers so that she can contact is in the case of emergencies.
- CHART is meeting to discuss drug and alcohol problems. President Rahdert has been invited to attend their meetings. One of their concerns is that, with the University's decision to do away with "Spring Fling," there may be a move afoot by students to create an unofficial, off campus, alternative. CHART would prefer that faculty do nothing to encourage or support such an event. It was suggested by an FSSC member that perhaps a joint document sponsored by the FSSC and by some part of the administration might be useful. The inclusion of support from TU Student Government was also suggested. Another member mentioned that there are four "Greek councils" at Temple, and they might also be of help. Rahdert will bring our suggestions to CHART.
- The issue of sexual assault was raised, and whether the FSSC should undertake to raise this as an issue for the Temple community. We once had a sexual assault task force. Should we revisit this? It was suggested that Dean Ives might be a good person to begin discussions with. HR has recently instituted a new workplace violence and sexual assault training program. We might want to explore working with them.
- The Academic Programs Advisory Committee website is now active. Rahdert will contact Jodi Laufgraben suggesting that its address be officially announced to the Temple faculty.

- The new "Fly in Four" program to encourage four year graduation was officially announced today.
- Rahdert is still waiting to hear more information about the process for the review of deans.
- Mark will be meeting soon with Tilghman Moyer to discuss how the FSSC may be able to work with his office.
- The FSSC will be joined next week by Judge McKee, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Vice President's Report:

- We need volunteers whom we can suggest to the Writing Intensive Committee.
- CHART is also interested in a member from the FSSC.
- The TAUP/Senate Liaison Committee needs members.

Jones was contacted by Eric Brunner from HR. He is interested in working with the Senate via an ad hoc committee to understand the needs and concerns of adjunct faculty.

This generated a prolonged discussion.

- Rahdert proposed that the question of best practices for the use of adjunct, NTT and TT faculty might form the basis of an FSSC sponsored symposium.
- Another member suggested that we may not have a good idea of adjuncts' concerns, especially in schools other than our own.
- If we work with HR, we need to be careful that we separate FSSC issues from union issues.
- We must be careful that we do not attempt to speak for the adjuncts.
- MLA and AAUP have both published guidelines for use of adjunct faculty
- Adjunct means different things to different schools and colleges.
- Indeed, even within a given college, different departments may have very different ways of using adjunct faculty.

Eventually, Rahdert and Jones agreed to meet with HR to explore the situation.

Schwartz, Newman, and Korsh volunteered to form a committee to explore the possibility of a symposium.

Old Business:

We continued the discussion as to whether the FSSC should take any action with respect to the fashion in which the closing of athletic programs was handled. After prolonged discussion, Rahdert agreed to draft a possible letter to various parties which he will share with the officers and the FSSC for further discussion.

A committee was formed to consider whether we want an end of the year FSSC retreat.

A member asked about the status of the attempt to remove chairs from the bargaining unit. It was reported that we are waiting to hear from the hearing officer, after which there may be appeals.

New Business:

None

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM

Paul S. LaFollette, Jr.

Secretary