

**Representative Faculty Senate Meeting  
April 10, 2014  
Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Representative senators and officers: 43  
Ex-officios: 0  
Faculty, administrators, and guests: 9

**Call to Order:**

President Rahdert called the meeting to order at 1:51 PM.

**Approval of minutes:**

The minutes of the March 21 meeting were approved as corrected.

**President's Report:**

At the last meeting Rahdert reported on the budget resolution that the FSSC adopted. This resolution was transmitted to President Theobald, and we received an immediate response. Theobald said that he would see that this resolution was distributed to all of our deans, that he would have the Provost or his designee meet with each of the deans to endorse the spirit of the resolution, that he will have the deans indicate how they will affirmatively respond to it, and he will make sure that the Provost makes clear to all the deans that the new decanal review process will involve questions as to how the deans have involved faculty in matters of college governance, including budgetary issues.

Rahdert congratulated all the winners of the recent Senate elections, and to thank everybody who agreed to be a candidate. Some unfilled positions remain, and Rahdert also thanks all those who will step forward and help populate our committees.

Thanks were also extended to Joan Shapiro and the nominating committee and to Vice President Jones for her work in supervising the committee elections, and special thanks to our coordinator Cheryl Mack.

Voter turnout this year was significantly greater than in some previous years, due in part to the work done by the FSSC representatives encouraging their colleagues to vote.

We are still looking for faculty volunteers for the Owl on the Hill day. If you want to be involved in that, contact Rahdert or Ken Lawrence.

The FSSC has recently met with Karen Clark, Vice President for Strategic Planning. She outlined a new campaign which will be significantly oriented towards showcasing our faculty and what they contribute to the university. We met with Diane Maleson and discussed promotion and tenure procedures, long term contracts for NTT faculty, and the distribution of teaching duties between TT, NTT, and adjunct faculty and graduate students.

Ken Kaiser will make a presentation about the budget at our May meeting.

We had planned on having a presentation at the May meeting about the new library, but that planning process has not gone far enough at this point, so we will re-schedule that report for the fall.

We are in the process of organizing a special meeting in early may to hear a report from the Smith Group which will outline the draft of the Strategic Plan.

Again in May we will honor faculty who are retiring this year.

**Vice President's Report:**

Jones reported the results of the committee elections.

EPPC  
William Miller (ENGR)

Personnel Committee  
Mark Rahdert (LAW)

RPPC  
Mahmut Safak (TUSM)  
Timothy McDonald (TYL)

Honors Oversight  
Erik Cordes (CST)  
Paul Swann (TFMA)

UTPAC  
Rebecca Alpert (CLA)  
Therese Dolan (TYL)  
Tricia Jones (EDUC)

Next Joan Shapiro reported on the election of officers.

President  
Tricia Jones (EDUC)

Vice President  
Charles Jungreis (TUSM)

Secretary  
Deborah Howe (SED)

She noted that those elected represent three different campuses.

**Resolutions re. Promotion and Tenure Procedures**

Presented by Tricia Jones. These resolutions came from the FSSC ad hoc Committee for the Tenure and Promotion Processes, consisting of:

Tricia Jones(chair), Li Bai, James Korsh, and Paul LaFollette.

The resolutions were approved by the FSSC on April 8, 2014.

In forming these recommendations, we were guided by two principles.

The first is full transparency about the process and expectations for those who are coming up for tenure or promotion. The second principle is early feedback at each stage in the process.

Recommendation 1:

That the Senate be informed, in writing, of exactly what changes have been made to the 2011 Presidential Guidelines document and receive written clarification that these guidelines are still in effect. That an explanation be made to the Senate as to whatever amendments have been made, and the process, if any, by which faculty were consulted in the making of these amendments. That the current guidelines be immediately posted on Temple's web page where those guidelines are readily available to all faculty. That the current guidelines developed by schools and colleges be placed on Temple's website so that all interested parties, particularly the pre-tenured faculty of our various schools and colleges, can easily find them.

Rahdert explained that as this, and the next two recommendations have been endorsed by the FSSC, that the Representative Senate may take action on them. He proposed that we discuss and vote on them one by one.

Art Hochner (FSBM): Have the guidelines been taken down from the web site?

Answer: We were unable to find them where they used to be. We also found some schools and colleges whose guidelines were not posted.

The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Recommendation 2:

That the President and Provost shall convene a joint committee composed of leadership from the Faculty Senate and the administration, and jointly chaired by representatives of the Faculty Senate and the administration. That this committee would be tasked with evaluating recent amendments, taking into account the considerable diversity among our schools and colleges and their various programs, and recommending any additional changes that seem appropriate.

There was no debate.

The motion carried by a voice vote.

Recommendation 3:

That under exceptional circumstances where a decision by the President or Provost reverses a unanimous, positive recommendation from the departmental/college and dean's levels, the President and Provost should follow the spirit of the TAUP contract by providing written explanation, at least to the candidate, of the compelling circumstances occasioning this decision. That the written explanation shall be made available to the Faculty Senate Personnel Committee in the event that an appeal on the case is taken to that committee.

Art Hochner (FSBM) proposed an amendment to strike the word "unanimous" and replace it with "uniform."

The motion was seconded.

The reason is that the word unanimous could imply that the votes taken by departmental and collegial committees had to be unanimous.

Dieter Forster (CST): Why should this requirement not also apply to deans who recommend contrary to departmental and college committee votes?

Answer: The contract already requires this of deans.

The amendment was approved by voice vote.

The amended motion was approved by a voice vote.

Rahdert stated that we anticipate having continuing conversations with the Provost's office about these matters. If you have other ideas or concerns, please convey them to President Rahdert or to you FSSC representative.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business:**

Dieter Forster (CST): About fifteen years ago, there was an ad hoc committee formed to consider what part the Ambler Campus should play at Temple. It is time to do that again, to have the Senate and the Provost look at the role that Ambler should play.

Rahdert commented that the master planning process has first concentrated on Main Campus, Center City, and the Health Sciences Center. Ambler will be evaluated by them later, and Rahdert agrees that this is a timely suggestion.

Deborah Howe: She has been told that Ambler is not being considered at the moment of in the master planning process. If it has not been addressed within the next few months, she would support the formation of such a committee.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

Paul S. LaFollette, Jr  
Secretary.