

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, April 22, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Present: Mark Rahdert (Pres.), Tricia Jones (Vice Pres.), Paul LaFollette (Secy.), Joan Shapiro (Past-Pres.), Mark Anderson (Law), Li Bai (Engr), Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Cheri Carter (SSW), Deborah Howe (SED), Michael Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Chip Jungreis (TUSM), Stephanie Knopp (Tyl), Jim Korsh (CST), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Steve Newman (Fac. Herald), Catherine Schifter (Educ), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Karen M. Turner (SMC), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Forrest Huffman (FSBM), Robert Reinstein (Law) (On Leave), Michael Sachs (CHP), Joseph Schwartz (CLA)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes were approved as distributed.

President's Report – Mark Rahdert:

President Rahdert began his report by stating that one of his unrealized hopes for this year was that the Senate, through the FSSC, begin to bring forward more issues on its own rather than spending so much of our time reacting to actions taken by the administration. He requested that we come to next week's meeting prepared to discuss ideas for actions that we might consider next year.

Rahdert will send the resolutions about T & P to the President and the Provost this week. He also announced that the Board will regularize the allocation five minutes to the President of the Student Government and the President of the Senate at public Board meetings. This will begin formally next academic year, but will take place informally at this spring's Board meeting as well.

The Provost has re-scheduled the meeting he was to have with Rahdert to discuss the report on diversity. It will now take place this coming Friday.

Ken Kaiser is creating programs to educate faculty about the RCM budget. The first will be held in the Rhodes room on May 9th. Those faculty who would like invitations should contact Katherine D'Angelo.

Diane Maleson is organizing orientation programs for adjunct faculty. She wants to institutionalize this and would like the Senate to have a role in doing so.

Vicki McGarvey has informed Rahdert that the Office for Digital Education is now in the process of searching for a director. Two candidates of interest will be visiting in early May, and

would like the names of faculty who would commit to meeting with these candidates. It was suggested by an FSSC member that and NTT and an adjunct be included.

Vice President's Report – Tricia Jones:

As requested by the FSSC recently, Jones has called a meeting of EPPC.

First Guest – Ken Lawrence, Senior Vice President for Government, Community, and Public Affairs:

Rahdert began the discussion by asking Lawrence how the faculty can help him?

Answer: In the budget session in Harrisburg, the governor proposed flat funding for Temple. We are trying to convince the legislature to give us a 3% increase. He stated that faculty contacting their legislators really does make a difference, and he asked us to encourage our constituents to do so.

Q: Flat funding is really a cut because of inflation. Does the proposed 3% represent any real increase?

A: It covers inflation and a tiny bit more.

Q: What is the scope of Temple's funding from the state? Does it cover the professional schools?

A: Yes.

Comment: The students we serve who remain in Pennsylvania contribute to PA's economy and are themselves constituents of our legislators.

A: One in seven graduates in greater Philadelphia is a Temple graduate. This is not far behind Penn State. Our alums would be the fourth largest city in PA behind Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Harrisburg.

Q: Do our legislators believe that there is "fat" in Temple's budget?

A: No, the cuts in 2010 were part of an economic decision not to raise taxes. Generally they do not see "fat." The governor's philosophy is that the state should not fund educational institutions.

Q: What do the legislators think about Fly in Four?

A: They are very enthusiastic about it.

Q: How interested are they in rankings such as USN&WR?

A: Such rankings are not on their radar screens at all.

Q: Is Temple's importance as a school that provides access to first generation college students a story that is getting out to the legislature?

A: Their understanding of Temple is moving away from this story and moving toward articulation agreements that allow students to begin their careers at community colleges and then transfer to Temple.

Q: Is the legislature influenced by “for profit” schools?

A: “For profit” schools have not generated any conversations.

Q: What about the hospital? Is there anything we can do to encourage the state to help?

A: The state already does a lot, but will probably never be able to do enough. The legislature is appreciative of Temple’s contribution, but believes that it is the city’s responsibility to contribute as well.

Q: To what extent is the state’s revenue expected to increase?

A: Projections are mixed.

Comment: Perhaps it is time to re-animate the old “I could have gone anywhere, but I chose Temple.” campaign. It might resonate again.

Q: Were there any ramifications from the sports re-structuring?

A: Not really

Q: Can you comment about your work at the federal level?

A: Temple has never had a person who specializes in federal affairs. We are searching for a new person to fill that gap.

Q: Does it matter whether students and faculty go to visit legislators?

A: Absolutely

Second Guest – Cameron Eterzady, Associate University Counsel:

Eterzady explained that he is coming to us prior to visiting all of the various schools and colleges at Temple to help us understand Temple’s newly expanded policies in response to the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. He provided us with a handout, included as an appendix to these minutes, summarizing the applicable Temple policies and other information.

He began by suggesting that faculty often fall into the trap of promising not to repeat what a victim has told them. He stated that we cannot promise anonymity but can promise confidentiality. This led to a long and productive discussion as to what our responsibilities and liabilities as faculty are. The following points developed:

- Appropriate response to a request for anonymity might be something like “I will hold what you tell me in highest confidence, but I may have a requirement to report what I have been told.”
- Victims should be referred for further help. A reasonable starting place is the Student Wellness Center.
- A member of the FSSC suggested that Eterzady take a partner from the School of Social Work when he brings this information to the schools and colleges.
- This presentation is being given in the context of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, but Temple policy requires the same actions with respect to violence against men.
- Sandy Foehl is a good starting point for reporting.
- Faculty are concerned about their protection against unjust accusations.

- No matter how much time has elapsed between the time an event took place and the time you are made aware of it, even years, you should report what you have heard.
- The faculty feel that they need a handout that explains the steps to take, perhaps in a flowchart format.
- It may be useful to create some scenarios for use in training faculty.

Vice President's Report Continued:

A note will be sent to all committees reminding them to schedule elections in early fall for committee chairs.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 PM.

Paul S. LaFollette, Jr.
Secretary