

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, September 9, 2014
3B Conwell Hall
Minutes

Present:

Tricia Jones, Deborah Howe, Adam Davey, Mark Rahdert, Li Bai, Cheri Carter, Teresa Cirillo (for Forrest Huffman), Michael Jackson, Michael Jacobs, Stephanie Knopp, James Korsh, Paul LaFollette, Matt Miller, Michael Sachs, Catherine Schifter, Joseph Schwartz, James Shellenberger, Jeffrey Solow, Karen Turner

Absent:

Kenneth Boberick, Marla Wolfson, Cheryl Mack

Guests:

Elizabeth Sweet, Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon

1. Call to Order

President Jones called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes not yet ready for approval (will be ready for next week).

3. President's Report: Tricia Jones

Update on faculty senate secretary.

Adam Davey has agreed to serve as Faculty Senate Secretary.

Update on meeting with the Provost 9/4

President Jones and Vice-President Howe reported on a very positive meeting with the Provost.

1. How to constitute task force

2. Provost agreed that it is not workable to have vice provost for faculty affairs to serve as ombudsperson, and supports idea of ADR task force.

3. Decanal review process for Deans, what are best practices, best processes, and greater faculty involvement in the process. Provost expressed interest in exploring this and soliciting input from FS and FSSC.

Update on scheduled visits to FSSC

9/9 Goals for 10/14 senate meeting

9/16 Jodi Levine Laufgraben to discuss APAC

9/23 Howard Spodek (International Programs Committee)

9/30 Istvan Varkonyi, Director of GenEd

10/7 Finalize last steps on shared governance meeting and Ken Kaiser's group

10/14 No Meeting (Faculty Senate meeting with President)

10/21 Joyce Wilkerson (1-2) Daniel L. White

10/28 Diversity Symposium

Additional suggestions for invitees include Trustees, global programs, and managing competing forces with the academic calendar. Rahdert noted that when originally proposed, the current calendar structure was meant to be offered once with evaluation including from faculty.

Update on Diversity Symposium and feedback to committee

Guests, Witherspoon and Sweet discussed the origins of the Diversity Symposium (<http://www.fox.temple.edu/posts/2014/10/diversity-symposium-alter-702-mba-commons/>), which is supported by the Faculty of Color committee. Other events include the annual Chat in the Stacks meeting (<http://library.temple.edu/about/highlights/public-programs-september-11>). As well, the group honors senior faculty of color, and the Women of color writing project is examining the race curriculum here at Temple. Stephanie Knopp suggested the need to consider the role of history for providing context in the context of FOC activities.

First goal of Diversity Symposium is to get information. Speaker (Karen Umemoto) from University of Hawaii will be facilitating “speak out” conversation. Planning for approximately 300 participants in 6 booths, each with a specific charge/focus. Second goal is application. Afternoon will include smaller group discussions and dialogues to identify actions to improve/enhance/foster diversity.

Need booth captains/chairs/coordinators, and 6 volunteers (the whole time or shifts) – Assistance for staffing is needed, and this is the most acute need.

Jones: 1) Idea was for faculty, staff, students, and community – what kind of involvement are we getting from each constituency, especially staff and community groups? Have backed away from community focus (although afternoon will include Ken Lawrence and Joyce Wilkerson). Engagement through student organizations is a second vehicle, and will also be reaching out to Eric Brunner. 2) Participation requires a considerable time commitment. The symposium represents a long day for organizers, not necessarily for participants. Longer availability is to encourage greater numbers to participate. 3) How will Symposium feed into COD/FSSC meeting? Approach with symposium is expected to lead to concrete action stems from the afternoon’s synthesis session. Jones encouraged all FSSC members to attend and to reach out to at least one colleague and encourage class/staff participation.

Rahdert suggested that since president and provost will be out of country, perhaps consider Chancellor Englert. Perhaps also indicate that full day participation is not required. Miller suggested circulating content/focus of booths. Knopp noted the importance of reaching out personally to encourage engagement. Contact Betsy (bsweet@temple.edu) for additional information.

More information on basic committee operations

High priority committees: EPPC, RPPC, Personnel, Budget, SFFs

President’s / Provost’s committees with FS election: UTPAC, GEEC

Ownership of Honors Oversight committee is unclear

Expect set of motions following next meeting

Discussion of Goals for October 14th Shared Governance Meeting

Existing suggestions: ask president to announce initiatives re shared faculty governance; we have a suggestion to put forward intrinsic/extrinsic rewards/supports (e.g., merit, course load release) Some kind of announcement to make by-laws simpler to effect (facilitate/encourage updated by-laws, including revision to Dean’s ability to stall amendments)

Meetings once or twice a year with trustees, higher administration, and FSSC around key topics

Tension between Dean’s prerogative and faculty’s input to budget advisory committees – greater transparency is needed, as well as greater input into the composition of those committees (especially elected members – at least some faculty should be elected)

Presidential thought about future composition of faculty and teaching environment

Jones reiterated desire to keep emphasis on shared governance
How will RCM be rolled out with regard to department chairs?
Need to increase institutional support for entrepreneurial initiatives
Can president direct Provost and Deans to comment on their perspective on shared governance
Ask President for his suggestions on how faculty can become more engaged in shared governance.

Report from the Ad Hoc Task Force on Shared Governance
Continued recommendations regarding streamlining of committee structures

4. Vice President's Report: Deborah Howe

Committee Applicants

University Sabbatical Committee (Pompper, Giordano, Botwinick) – voted to approve Pompper; require additional information from Giordano and Botwinick

UTPAC Committee (Chaganti [approved], Franko, Giordano, Keshner, Krishnan) – voted to approve Keshner based on committee recommendation

Lectures/Forums (Ingram) – voted to approve Ingram

5. Old Business

6. New Business

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 16, 2014