

Minutes
Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, December 1, 2015
3B Conwell Hall

Attendance:

Present: Tricia Jones (Pres.), Adam Davey (Vice Pres.), Michael Sachs (Secy.), Raghbir Athwal (LKSM), Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSBM), Marsha Crawford (SSW), Kurosh Darvish (ENGR), Fred Duer (TFMA), Eli Goldblatt (CLA), Michael W. Jackson (STHM), Stephanie Knopp (ART), Jim Korsh (CST), Paul LaFollette (Fac. Herald), Mary Myers (SED), Heidi Ojha (CPH), Cornelius Pratt (SMC), Mark Rahdert (LAW), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Ken Thurman (Educ.), Jie Yang (KSoD), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Michael Jacobs (Pharm)

1. Call to Order

President Jones called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from November 3, 2015 were approved. Moved and seconded (9 yes).

3. Guest: Michele Masucci, Vice President for Research Administration

Reviewed parameters of move from Provost's office to President's office.

Fox Chase faculty connected with Temple. Discussed nuances of relationship with Fox Chase.

Can be especially helpful.

Question about doctoral tuition. Some federal agencies will support tuition. Would need to involve Vice Provost for Grad Education to be involved in discussion. Concern about cuts in research assistantships. Some Deans moving towards post-docs as full-time employees. Reductions in TAs to save money, allocation of students in areas they may be as qualified for as possible.

Robust research enterprise the key/the focus.

Assessed costs for research. Some colleges invest heavily in research administration, some don't. Figure out how best to look at actual college costs and what is reasonable across colleges. IRB – lot of issues in compliance across the board. Radiation and biosafety issues in reviews, particularly in timing of reviews. New head of DHRS coming in. They are going through restructuring as well. Biosafety - Three committees have biosafety person to approve protocols. Michele's office doesn't oversee this person. Broken system.

Biosafety primary focus is safety, not research. Michele's office needs research Biosafety folks.

Much turning over and staff can't keep up with social and behavioral backlog. Western IRB will assist in reviewing protocols – clear backlog. December 16th – if no resolution e-mail Michele that this is the case. Can track it down. January search for AVP for research compliance – true expert in field. Make sure right staff, trained appropriately. Dissertation protocols which are low risk should be dealt with quickly (10 days). Send e-mail to Michele if more than 10 days. Not hold up student research. Faculty research – non-research/evaluation research should be done within a week. Let Michele know. Management not effective at present. Expedited/exempt category – need feedback on whether it is exempt and can expedite process. Faculty don't always need to fill out complete protocol – is it non-research, expedited, exempt, or needs full protocol. Suggestion to send e-mail to faculty to make this clear/explain process.

Conflict of Interest (COI) – 5 different policies. Understand people will have other interests, but need to disclose them. Need system to do this. Already have COI with grant submissions. HR was going to implement their own system. Michele's office is tweaking research one for other faculty, rather than letting HR do it. Faculty not doing funded research will have to use ERA and provide information. Alas, ERA not most user friendly platform in world. Medicine has been doing it for a long time. Almost all is CST as well. CPH is first real volunteer to pull into ERA and provide COIs. No real connection of AROFA and COI. Burden on administration to try to figure out how to streamline this process of provision of information.

Question on AROFA and 'overkill' in some disciplines. Great deal of time spent on it. We are part of an effort (FDP) to reduce faculty burden. Grant faculty – 40 cents of every dollar on administration, not research. Supposed to be trying to solve this, for AROFA – way in which information requested/fed in is inefficient.

Government Services Agreement – GSA – work directly with program officers. Discretionary funding can come from program officers (DOD, Commerce, Agriculture; not NIH and NSF). GSA allows direct funding to do special projects. Hourly rate encompasses overhead. Our application is under review – takes a year to review. We should get approved. Application is for all agencies.

We may get a DOD 'line' – administer research in materials science. Reduce impact of TBI. We do some of research and administer rest of program to provide research funding.

Seed grant programs – announcement coming out soon. Geared more towards a steering committee pulling together faculty working in a given area. Thematic areas to be finalized – strategic research aims (such as TBI, materials research, bioinformatics). Bridge grant program available.

Possibility of special meeting with associate deans and selected faculty/Collegial Chairs on research topic (rather than meeting with administration/Deans).

Recommendation to form relationships with 'research deans' (Associate Deans for Research) in each college. CPH good example of college which has brought in a great associate dean for research.

4. President's Report

- a) Morgan D-301 for Faculty Senate meeting on Friday. First time there.
- b) E-mails with Jeremy Jordan. Question about PACIA – inactive since Theobald here. Why inactive? Inactive because president has made it inactive. Would be willing to support/activate. Quasi advising committee back in Liacouras days. Support for Jeremy to encourage this. Jeremy Jordan – suggest put together task force of faculty appropriately leverage new stadium idea. But this assumes we are in favor of a stadium. We will continue discussion at FS on this topic. We need a conversation first whether it is a good idea. Need to have a voice on task force concerning stadium. Would like to see wish list for what will be in new stadium. Is there a rendering of what the new stadium would look like? Michael Jackson discussed some basic issues, such as naming rights, seat licenses, bricks, etc. Question about what we're trying to accomplish. We need information/ask questions. Perhaps sponsor forum to discuss this. Perhaps two prong attack – discussions of this as well as representatives to task force. Possibly discuss with Margaret Carney, University Architect.
- c) Recommendation that we need a resolution for Friday that we are tired of not being consulted.
- d) LGBTQ and Diverse Constituency committee update to come from Adam Davey.
- e) Marina's motions situation. Marina just received prestigious award – Ruth Bader Ginsburg legal education award. Our amendments got voted down. Technically bring Marina's motion back up in January; Marina wants it brought back up in December. What should we do? Discussion ensued. Point made that perception on part of some faculty that our motion was being used to block Marina from talking and that Robert's Rules of Order were not followed (incorrect but still perception). Sentiment that good to get it over with but also better to do in January. Jackson moved to hold off on motion until January. Seconded by Yang. Vote – 9 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain. Motion passes.
- f) Bargaining Units Liaison Committee – many faculty have expressed displeasure at way process unfolded in faculty not having a voice in adjunct faculty decision.

5. Vice-President's Report

Erinn Tucker (STHM) was nominated for appointment to the Committee on the Status of Women

Angela Bricker (CST) was nominated for appointment to the Committee on the Status of Women

Michael Sachs (CPH) was nominated for appointment to the Committee on Faculty Disability Concerns

Kenneth Thurman (COE) was nominated for appointment to the Committee on Faculty Disability Concerns

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

None.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sachs
Secretary