

Minutes
Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, March 17, 2015 – 1:00 pm
3B Conwell Hall

Attendance:

Present: Tricia Jones (Pres.), Deborah Howe (Vice Pres.), Adam Davey (Secy.), Mark Rahdert (Past-Pres.), Raghbir Athwal (TUSM), Li Bai (Engr), Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSBM) Jane Evans (TYL) Michael W. Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Jim Korsh (CST), Paul LaFollette (Fac. Herald), Michael Sachs (CHP), Catherine Schifter (Educ), Joseph Schwartz (CLA), James Shellenberger (LAW), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Karen M. Turner (SMC), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Cheri Carter (SSW), Matthew Miller (TFMA)

1. Call to Order
President Jones called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes
The minutes from March 10 were approved with one abstention.
3. President's Report
 - a. CLA recommendations on assignment to P&T committees have been circulated.
4. Vice President's Report
 - a. Vice President Howe has reached out to set a time to meet with Michele Masucci regarding changes to the charge of RPPC.
 - b. Childcare committee met this week.
 - c. Elections are approaching. We still need resolution on whether current members of UTPAC continue on to the new committees. There was acknowledgement that several philosophical and logistical issues still need to be resolved around committee composition and assignment. Further to that discussion, a motion was forwarded and unanimously approved that that the faculty senate should reconstitute UTPAC anew around each of the three subcommittees.
5. Guest: Kevin Delaney, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs (2:00-2:30 pm)
 - a. UTPAC Process. Current thinking is that a mechanism to assign P&T cases to committees is more useful than the process of assigning departments to committees. Finding an appropriate mechanism to make this assignment is the next logical step. CLA has prepared one potential mechanism toward this end. A mechanism that includes recommendations of the candidate, the chair, the dean, and perhaps the Provost or designee, each with substantiation. Timing is another important consideration, probably either mid-point review or a specified date in the year prior to P&T, followed by written communication to the candidate. More effort should be devoted to the small subset of cases where there is disagreement. An appeals process is another area that may need further consideration once more of the process is resolved.

- b. UTPAC Elections. The Provost has indicated that he is comfortable with the Faculty Senate moving forward with elections under whatever model makes the most sense. There was support for the idea of constituting the committees anew, with candidates elected separately to each of the subcommittees. Three elected representatives are needed for each subcommittee. Consideration of a stipend or course release is a consideration that can be put forward to the Provost's office. Consideration under the Provost's merit pool is another avenue to consider. It was strongly suggested that the Faculty Senate prepare as deep a slate of candidates as possible in case changes are required.
- c. College and School P&T Guidelines. Vice Provost Delaney will remind Deans that P&T guidelines urgently need to be updated.
- d. Tenure upon Hire. There is no longer a June Board meeting, which has moved up the timeline for this year's candidates for tenure-upon-hire.
- e. Adjunct Faculty. Going forward, this will require an increasing amount of the Vice Provost's attention.
- f. Training. Groups such as Chairs require considerably greater training and orientation, perhaps in coordination with other units.
- g. Faculty Composition. It was suggested that Temple have a thoughtful discussion of the composition of the faculty and a clearer career path particularly for NTT faculty.

6. Old Business

There was no old business.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Guest: Provost Hai-Lung Dai (3:00-3:30 pm)

- a. Undergraduate applications. We saw an 8% increase in applications over last year, following on the 30% increase from common application. The Temple Option drew approximately 3000 applicants. This year, we will have approximately 20-30 point higher SAT scores for admitted freshmen. Deposits are also about 10% above last year's values.
- b. Research expenditures have increased. Several factors have fed into this increase, including better accounting of unrealized indirect cost recovery in addition to real increases in research.
- c. Instructional technology. By the next fiscal year, the Teaching and Learning Center will include Instructional Technology services with the aim of providing more responsive services. Tech fees will return to colleges.
- d. Report on Centers and Institutes. Centers and Institutes are vehicles to encourage research, often of an interdisciplinary nature. Guidelines for governance and sunseting of institutes are recommended. Centers operate at the level of the College; names for Centers should go through Jodi Levine Laufgraben. Institutes operate across Colleges. Institutes will also be empowered to run graduate programs. Every center and institute should be reviewed every five years. Current Institutes and Centers will be grandfathered into the current process. Center reviews should be conducted through the Dean's office; Institute reviews should be conducted centrally.

- e. Graduate board. For all Ph.D. candidates that we recruit, we will offer a minimum of 4 years of support.
- f. GenEd. RCM brings several complications with regard to GenEd. Instructor qualifications and access to cross-campus GenEd courses are being considered centrally by GEEC, including evaluation and, where necessary, decertification. Full-time faculty members teach approximately 55% of GenEd courses.
- g. Small Departments. The intention of a policy around small departments is directed toward ensuring that small but vital departments are appropriately resourced for success.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 24, 2015

Adam Davey
Secretary