

Minutes
Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, April 14, 2015
3B Conwell Hall

Attendance

Present: Deborah Howe (Vice Pres.), Adam Davey (Secy.), Mark Rahdert (Past-Pres.), Raghbir Athwal (TUSM), Li Bai (Engr), Cheri Carter (SSW), Jane Evans (TYL) Michael W. Jackson (STHM), Michael Jacobs (Pharm), Jim Korsh (CST), Paul LaFollette (Fac. Herald), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Michael Sachs (CHP), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Karen M. Turner (SMC), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Tricia Jones (Pres.), Kenneth Boberick (DENT), Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSBM), Catherine Schifter (Educ), Joseph Schwartz (CLA), James Shellenberger (LAW)

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the April 7 meeting were approved.

3. President's Report

- a. Senate Meeting Locations. Several spaces were discussed to host faculty senate meetings with Webex capabilities, subject to availability including Morgan Hall, Gittis, SERC, and Alter Hall. It was suggested that Barbara Dolhansky or Daniel White would be appropriate contacts to increase our ability to use technology to facilitate University Senate meetings. Paul LaFollette agreed to initiate this conversation.
- b. Steering Committee Meetings. There was discussion around how best to schedule FSSC meetings, such as frequency and timing such as with respect to weeks that also have University or Representative Senate meetings. There was also discussion about the feasibility of conducting some meetings electronically. There was also discussion about how to make best use of the visits from guests to the FSSC.
- c. Possible Events for Coming Year. FoC has discussed the possibility of hosting Diversity Symposium 2.0. A half-day event related to Adjunct Faculty was also suggested. One suggestion was that, to succeed, this would require leadership from adjunct faculty rather than being a Faculty Senate initiative. A different perspective would be to focus on "best practices;" however, this may not be possible to resolve while organization efforts are still ongoing. It was suggested that framing a discussion in larger terms, such as the role of adjunct, non-tenure track, and tenure track faculty within Temple as a research and teaching enterprise might be fruitful. There was particular interest in identifying topics with the potential to engage faculty at Temple more broadly, particularly those who have not been active with the Faculty Senate.
- d. More Active Agenda-Setting. Karen Turner suggested more active and regular contact between the FSSC and Chairs of Senate Committees as a way to increase engagement, communication, and accountability as well as to provide greater guidance. Without a desire to "micromanage" committee work, it was suggested that providing a more direct

charge or guidance, or even providing greater institutional context might aid Senate Committees as they proceed with their work. There was also some discussion about oversight of the SFF committee. It was proposed that we might invite a subset of Chairs from Faculty Senate Committees to make very brief presentations to update on Committee business at Faculty Senate meetings. Another suggestion was to explore ways of engaging chairs of the Collegial Assemblies to a greater extent. It was suggested that the FSSC consider hosting an opportunity to meet with faculty who have recently been granted tenure or promotion in order to discuss ways to increase their awareness of opportunities for service at Temple.

(See attached)

4. Vice President's Report

Vice President Howe extended an invitation to Philip Yannella (Herald) to visit the FSSC, but has not received a response. A motion was made and unanimously approved to appoint Karen Turner to the Faculty Herald Editorial Board effective July 1, 2015.

5. Old Business

There was no old business.

6. New Business

Karen Turner reported on a recent opportunity to increase junior faculty's awareness of opportunities to become involved in service at Temple University. Collegial Assemblies provide another excellent opportunity to engaging in outreach to faculty about needs and opportunity at Temple. There is still not much new information about the process of Dean's review committees. There was general consensus that the process was not uniformly transparent across review committees. There was discussion about the national coverage of Temple Athletics and how there was little or no internal discussion of the issue at the University. Additionally, the role of resources for students such as the CARE team and student advisors, and potential to provide faculty with additional training on making proper referrals when students present with issues or concerns would be valuable. A related problem is with regard to confidential resources for faculty and staff. Still unresolved is the status of College by-laws and tenure guidelines.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

Reminder: University Faculty Senate meeting Thursday, April 16th, 1:45 pm

Next FSSC meeting: Tuesday, April 21st, 1:00 pm

Adam Davey
Secretary

From: Tricia Jones
Sunday, April 12, 2015

Good Morning Everyone,

I hope your weekends are going well. I have some quick updates since our last meeting and some suggestions for conversations on 4/14.

Updates:

1. UTPACs - I talked with Kevin Delaney on Friday and he reported that he and the Provost have been talking about UTPACs and some of the suggestions we have made. He indicated that they have made no decisions and are not ready to provide a formal update (or an informal one) about how these processes will end up working. And, he doesn't think they will be ready by the time of the Senate meeting. At the Senate meeting I plan to speak briefly to a request to the Provost's office that decisions about process on UTPACs be made and distributed fully to faculty by the end of the semester (at least by May 8th, the date of commencement).
2. Bylaws reviews -- Again Kevin and I talked about the status of bylaws reviews and the specific cases of Boyer, COE, and TFMA. He indicated that as far as he is aware none of those bylaws are being held under review at his office or at Susan Smith's office and the bylaws have been returned (either with approval or recommendations for revision) to the respective deans offices. He indicated that folks interested in discovering the status of the bylaws should reach out to their deans offices for information. I suggested that this had been done and in some cases the people seeking information are CA chairs who should be informed from their deans offices. He suggested that if contacts with the deans offices still doesn't yield requested information the interested parties should then come to him and he'll see how he can help.
3. RPPC Draft -- Deb and I had a phone conversation with Michele Masucci about the RPPC draft and the bottom line was her suggestion that some of our thoughts may be based on assumptions about how the research enterprise is currently structured and functioning that are not accurate. We agreed that getting updated information to the FSSC and Senate was a good first step. So, Michele will be giving a presentation on her portfolio at the Senate meeting on the 16th and she will be visiting with FSSC from 1-3 for a deeper drill down session (remember that we'll be meeting at noon on 4/28 for our end of the year luncheon and then will have our regular meeting).
4. Website discussion progress -- Deb, Adam, Cheryl and I met after our last FSSC meeting to talk about what funds we had left this year that could be expended for a student or consultant to help improve the website situation. With Paul's help we located a student with website expertise and Paul and Cheryl and I interviewed her on Friday morning. We're going to hire her for about 50-75 hours worth of work starting as close as possible to May to (1) take a fresh look at diagnosing the degree of problems with the website and (2) upgrading and updating information as much as possible so we can get a website that is as user friendly and current as possible.
5. NTT Appointment/Hiring Processes -- I have reached out to Eric Brunner for discussion about this issue. Eric is currently in Singapore and I may not have a response for you before the 14th but I'll let you know if I do. In the meantime I looked on the website and found a very clear statement of procedures and policies for hiring practices for all full-time NTT positions at <http://www.temple.edu/vpfaculty/hiring-temp.html>. It seems that the university has very clear procedures for hiring any NTT and that part of that must be formal notification of the hiring process and intention through HR. Whether those processes are being followed is a different issue.
6. Real Sports Temple Story -- Not sure whether you saw the HBO "Real Sports" show last night but they had a story on mistreatment of student athletes that very prominently featured Temple University. We did not look good. And although there were statements made that other schools also have these problems and University of Washington was highlighted as well, the truth is that over 60% of the story was focused on 'ours truly'. We did not look good. I'm putting out a request to Justin Miller to visit us on April 21st. Also for your information -- Eleanor Myers and I tried from July through December last year to get Kevin Clarke to agree to come visit the FSSC to no avail. As you may recall, we had Eleanor meet with us earlier this spring because of her concern about the FAR position and her difficulty in getting access to Kevin in that role. I will ask Kevin again if he'd like to visit us but I think reaching out to Justin is more likely to result in success.

7. Invitation to the President to Visit FSSC: it appears that there is little chance the President will be able to meet with us in our remaining meeting dates (21 and 28th). I am trying to get on his calendar in May to talk prior to the end of semester and to encourage his consideration of some of our issues.

8. Dean Lucia: I have an invitation out to Joe Lucia to see if he can visit us on the 21st.

Suggestions for Topics on 4/14 FSSC

First, I won't be at the meeting on the 14th. That's one of the reasons for this long email to serve in part as a "president's report." I'll be meeting with the Professional Ombuds and Mediation staff from the United Nations and hope you forgive me for saying yes to that session instead of being with FSSC. I will be here for the Faculty Senate meeting on the 16th.

There are some issues for possible discussion at the meeting, although with Deb in charge I'm completely comfortable if you and she wish to take the agenda in a different direction. I know the conversation will be fruitful.

1. Senate meetings for next year: I'd like to recommend that we try and find other places to meet than Kiva auditorium so we can start having a Webex presence. I think it is much more important to find good places than to finalize dates right now. Please recommend places that might be possible (7th floor Alter Hall, Morgan Hall, etc.) so we can ask Cheryl to pursue meeting places on available dates. We're not time bound on setting all Senate meeting dates right now, if we can get this down by end of semester that will be fine.

2. Discussion of Changes in FSSC meeting practices next year: Personally, I think we have excellent meetings but we are meeting a little too frequently given the Senate meetings and other events that we are asked to attend and contribute to with little real incentive support. I'd like to hear your thoughts about the following suggestions:

- don't have FSSC meeting on weeks when we also have Faculty Senate meetings
- have a couple of FSSC meetings each semester via conference call or webEx

3. Discussion of Possible Events Next year: I have reached out to the FOC and to Michael J. concerning whether they are interested in the possibility of repeating their events next year (no firm requests or promises -- just initial conversation). I'd like to know your thoughts about whether we should be scheduling events.

One event possibility that I discussed recently with Paul is a half day session on the Adjunct Issue. A Faculty Senate sponsored session might be very timely and useful.

If you have thoughts whether we should have any of these events or any others we should identify those before end of the year so planning can commence.

4. Taking a More Active Agenda-Setting Role in Major Senate Committees: We have GEEC, International Programs, Budget and Personnel, FOC and re-energized FOW that work well. But we need to set a firmer agenda for EPPC and continue to resolve the RPPC issues. Especially for EPPC, we have a committee that is meeting again but still being led by administration because the faculty side is not supplying agenda items. I have 2 I'd like to start suggesting. Please add your critical issues to EPPC agenda so we can charge them ore effectively for next year:

- free electives
- how the changes in academic calendar is impacting the nature of courses offered in the non-conventionals (i.e., pre-term) sessions. This can include questions about equivalency of work load as well as whether some courses should not be taught in the shorter term calendar segments for review or accreditation concerns.

Thanks for bearing through the entire email. -Trish

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