

Minutes
Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, October 6, 2015
3B Conwell Hall

Attendance:

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

Absent: Stephanie Knopp (ART), Heidi Ojha (CPH)

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from September 22, 2015 were approved as amended. Moved and seconded (14 yes, one abstention).

3. President's Report

- a. Tuition benefits – process continued for a while but has now stopped due to adjunct voting approved by PLRB. There are budget neutral elements that could be discussed. Provost's office will discuss this with Jones and leadership of Tuition Benefits Committee Faculty Senate leadership, but appears to feel no action is appropriate at this time.
- b. President's presentation on October 8th – invitation sent to entire University community. 400 people indicated they would attend. Location has been moved to Mitten Hall. President's focus in address will be on future rather than past events. Alas, Q&A not really manageable in Mitten Hall. There will be no Q&A due to facility logistics. Q&A to follow at December Faculty Senate meeting. Question raised about expectations of faculty on having a Q&A at the presentation. Should announce at beginning there will be no Q&A. Possibility of submitting questions via index cards for potential questions (and answers). Possibility also of setting up a web site location/on line forum for questions and answers.
- c. Need for separate Senate meeting?
- d. Meet with Anne Nadol on Sexual Assault Policy in next few weeks.

- e. Update on Faculty Service Brunch. November 17 at MBA Commons (change from November 11th on original schedule). College processes – still waiting for responses on individuals selected (one response received to date). Provost not available on the 17th. Waiting on President and Deans' availability.

- f. December Senate Meeting – Potential response to PLRB response to adjunct ability to vote on unionization. Potential discussion of adjunct faculty issue. Question as to whether vote is scheduled. Concern is that perception would be that discussion is whether to vote for/against unionization, rather than neutral on vote and discussion of issues. Note that this kind of discussion has not been happening. Question about relationship of Faculty Senate and TAUP. Jones noted completely separate structures. Jones elaborated on other differences (for example, Faculty Senate represents all schools and colleges). Past practice is that TAUP leaders have often been FS leaders. Outside groups perceive FSSC is are much closer than we are. Sensitivity to having discussions perceived as FS representing TAUP rather than independent discussion of issues.

According to bylaws, Faculty Senate does not represent adjuncts. This is something we could revisit if desired.

4. Vice President's Report

- a. CATA - Joseph Picone was appointed to the Committee on Administrative and Trustee Appointments
- b. EPPC - Mehran Hossaini-Zadeh was appointed to the Educational Programs and Policies Committee.
- c. Handbook - Felix Udoeyo was appointed to the Standing Committee on the Continuous Revision of the Faculty Handbook.
- d. Library Committee – Teresa Gill Cirillo, Sarah Cordes, and Adil Khan were appointed to the Library Committee.
- e. RPPC – Parsaoran Hutapea and Will Jordan were appointed to the Research Programs and Policies Committee.
- f. Status of Women – Leora Eisenstadt and Elizabeth Matthew were appointed to the Committee on the Status of Women.

Nominations unanimously approved.

- g. Remaining committee vacancies are as follows.

CATA (3)
 Status of Women (4)
 Lectures and Forums (5)
 Library (2)

Thanks to everyone who agreed to serve on Senate committees as well as those who solicited nominations.

- h. The UTPAC ballot was finalized and voting is open. Candidates are as follows.

Committee A: Humanities and the Arts

Therese Dolan
Fred Duer
Christopher Harper

Committee B: Sciences, Life Sciences and Engineering

James Korsh
Irina Mitrea
Bassel Sawaya
Dennis Silage
Joseph Picone

Committee C: Social Sciences, Business and Law

Steven Balsam
Cornelius Pratt
Kenneth Thurman

No representative from Law agreed to serve, requiring that a placeholder appear on the ballot until a suitable candidate can be identified. When it is time to appoint such a person the FSSC will discuss this.

Names of administrators who expressed interest in serving were forwarded to VPFA Delaney's office for consideration:

Molefi Kete Asante (A), Emily Keshner (B), Deborah A. Cai (C)

Robust applause for job well done by Adam Davey.

5. Guests – Li Bai (Engineering)

Discussed his idea concerning an Innovative Service Incentive Suggestion. Handout provided. Seventy-five percent of merit pool to research, only 25% to research and service. Examined two formulas (Rutgers and Berkeley) – modified these as indicated on handout. Extended discussion of elements of teaching, research, and service. Enhance research productivity but do not ignore service. Need conversation about what service is most important. Potentially refer to EPPC for a potential endorsement and bring back to faculty. Appreciation extended to Li Bai for his work on this.

Discussion of referring to EPPC. Concern with funding not going into base pay, but cash in hand. Perhaps suggest choice for faculty. Idea has merit for further discussion. Bring up in FS meeting as on our radar and being discussed/reviewed.

6. Old Business

None discussed.

7. New Business

None discussed.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sachs
Secretary