

University Faculty Senate Meeting
Thursday, April 16, 2015 – 1:45 PM
Kiva Auditorium
Videoconference: HSC, 343 MERB – AMBLER, ALC201

Minutes

Attendance:

Representative senators and officers: 36

Ex-officios: 0

Faculty, administrators and guests: 21

1. Call to Order:

President Jones called the meeting to order at 1:54 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from December 4, 2014 were approved.

3. President's Report:

- a. Retirements. The contributions of retiring faculty from Temple University were acknowledged. Those in attendance were recognized by name.
- b. UTPAC. VPFA Delaney and the Provost continue to discuss the implementation of the three UTPAC committees. The urgency of disseminating this information by the end of the semester was reinforced.
- c. Task Force on Tenure and Promotion. Last year, the faculty senate passed a resolution asking that President Theobald reconstitute and recharge the task force on tenure and promotion. Given all of the current changes in this area, this request has been sent to President Theobald again.

4. Vice President's Report:

- a. Committee Appointments. Jose Pereiro-Otero and Jacqueline Volkman Wise were unanimously approved for appointment to the Library Committee. Srimati Mukherjee was unanimously approved for appointment to the Faculty of Color Committee.

5. Report on Faculty Senate Elections:

President Jones, Vice President Howe, and Secretary Davey will serve for second terms in office.

Total ballot votes: 166

Officers:

President: Tricia S. Jones (Education): 146

Vice President: Deborah Howe (Environmental Design): 145

Secretary: Adam Davey (Public Health): 147

Elected Committees:

EPPC Deborah Stull (Science and Technology): 152

RPPC Joseph Picone (Engineering): 146

Prasun Datta (Medicine): 137

6. Guest: Michele Masucci, Vice Provost for Research:

- a. Vice Provost for Research Masucci provided an overview of the research enterprise at Temple University with an emphasis on key metrics and current trends. Awards to Temple University are approximately 20% above last year's figures, even excluding Fox Chase Cancer Center. Research expenditures and license revenues are also up significantly. Temple has finally cracked the top 100 research universities for the first time. Key challenges include information flow and dissemination of major successes across the campus and beyond. A number of recent research accomplishments were highlighted such as a recent award from the Department of energy and several program project grants. Vice Provost Masucci also reported on several areas of research development. Strategic directions include improvement of research support services, integrating applied and basic programs, developing team science, expanding strategic partnerships, engagement with the public policy agenda, and working closely with avenues for research dissemination. Resources are available to support technology commercialization opportunities such as through marketing, development and contracting.

Q. Steven Newman (CLA): What is the timeline for hearing about the Provost's Arts and Humanities Awards?

A. There are two programs. One is the targeted funding for matching dollars (e.g., bioinformatics). We are attempting to fund everything on the targeted side. \$1.5M of requests were made for \$250k of funds. The volume of requests has produced a bottleneck, but notices will definitely be made by the end of the academic year.

Q. James Korsh (CST): Do we know the excess revenue that comes from research compared with expenditures?

A. This needs to be considered in different ways. One is the overhead many awards bring. The other side is with investment and infrastructure. The university considers this to be a value proposition in order to achieve the desired research profile. Once the investment is in place, the expectation is that it will bring, support, and sustain new research opportunities.

Q. Joseph Schwartz (CLA). How can faculty interested in research help?

A. If you have an interest in, for example, serving as a reviewer, please make yourself known. There are very many opportunities and needs relating to the research infrastructure and we are always looking to bring new people into that process.

Q. Joseph Schwartz (CLA). What does your office deal with specifically related to CLA?

A. CLA is the most complicated college, almost like a university in microcosm. Every single department has numerous different funding sources, without much commonality of culture. Foundation funding that does not provide much in terms of indirect costs is a second challenge.

Q. Elizabeth Groff (CLA): Is there a mechanism to find out what other awards other investigators might have?

A. We have a database of all awards, but the agency database (e.g., NSF) is actually the easiest way to find out.

7. Old Business:

There was no old business.

8. New Business:

- a. Tuition Benefits Committee. Steve Newman reported on expansions to the tuition benefits program. A survey is currently under development. Research is being done on various models and specific agreements in current use. The committee hopes to report back by the beginning of next academic year.
- b. Child Care Committee. Art Hochner reported on the first meeting of the child care committee. They are also devising a survey for distribution to other institutions to learn more about current practices. There is discussion of including other employees and students in the conversation. There was a comment that the University of Pennsylvania provides a number of options for childcare such as care during weather closures, etc.
- c. Dieter Forster (CST) spoke out strongly against the perceived need for demonstrating child abuse clearances in order to teach his undergraduate students, many of whom are minors. Jeffrey Solow (BCMD) questioned whether this was a general requirement or only for those involved in activities with minors on campus. Susan Dickey (CPH) indicated that Nursing has implemented annual requirements in this regard, and that these clearances have been extended to students. President Jones indicated that she will request clarification from the administration on specific policies, requirements, and protocols. Jeffrey Solow indicated that a Temple-specific policy has affected faculty who teach non-Temple students in their studios on campus; this practice is no longer permitted, and this has affected “trial lessons”. Melissa Gilbert (CST) requested clarification on the policy since she has not been informed of any requirements to obtain these clearances globally.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Adam Davey
Secretary