

Minutes

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, September 4, 2018, 1:00 p.m.
3B Conwell Hall

Attendance:

Present: Cornelius Pratt (Pres., KMC) Rafael Porrata-Doria (Vice-Pres., Law) Kimmika Williams Witherspoon (Secy., TFMA), Michael Sachs, (Past-Pres., CPH), Quaiser Abdullah (COE), Shohreh Amini (CST), Betsy Barber (STHM), Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSB), Sue Dickey (Secy., CPH), Paul LaFollette (Fac. Herald, CST), Sharyn O'Mara (ART), Vallorie Peridier (ENGR), Melissa Potts (Pharm), Mark Rahdert (Law), Carmen Sapienza (LKSM), , Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Simon Hakim (CLA), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)
Absent: William Cabin (SSW)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

Introductions and new Members:

Quaiser Abdullah, College of Education, Shohreh Amini, College of Science and Technology, Vallorie Peridier, College of Engineering, Mark Rahdert, Law School, and Simon Hakim, College of Liberal Arts.

Approval of the April 24, 2018 minutes:

The minutes were approved as written.

President's Report:

Cornelius reported on the several meetings he attended during the summer, which included:

TAUP

At the TAUP meeting the topics that were discussed included:

Shared Governance and Academic Freedom

Of the several issues discussed,

- The faculty voice should be louder by being more impactful
- Faculty have to be encouraged to be more invested in faculty governance by being more involved in committees across the university and in our schools and colleges

There were concerns about Dean Reviews.

- How were the respondents selected?

In the August 14, 2018 meeting, it was suggested that reviews for Deans might happen more frequently. Perhaps Deans would not need to wait for a 5-year review. If there are issues, they should know about it in a timely way to correct any negative or questionable programs or policies.

Intellectual property:

Some faculty have raised the question of intellectual property concerning course content, specifically created by one instructor and then shared with other faculty when teaching that course or other sections of that course. Who owns what?

Overbearing Deans:

Deans are so powerful that they do things that faculty are not aware of such as grade changes without the faculty knowledge or approval. How can Faculty Senate address this issue?

Pedagogy:

How much impact should the administration make in how content is shared and/or created?

Needs further discussion.

Collegial assemblies---are those assemblies a platform for Deans or are they in reality spaces for faculty to talk through issues and concerns? How do we insure that collegial assemblies remain safe spaces for faculty dialogue?

Freedom to speak on matters of concern:

Where does the university stand on protecting faculty who come under attack?

Cornelius reported that we are now thinking about developing a survey/questionnaire to be administered to the faculty to assess what issues faculty members think are current and want to address. Based on the findings, we hope to issue a Report on Shared Governance at Temple.

Q/A:

Jeff Solow (BCMD): When you discussed these topics, were there any solutions suggested? (The meeting with TAUP)

Of course they didn't want anonymous comments on Dean's Review; but faculty are hesitant to make named comments. One comment can affect your entire teaching career and/or promotions-- status of faculty.

What is the percentage or the status of collegial assemblies run by Chairs and Deans? What percentage operate as Faculty meetings hosted by collegial assembly presidents?

Paul LaFollette (Fac, Her.): To what extent are the reports being made public?

One question for JoAnne Epps: Was the status of Deans' reviews brought up at Deans Retreats?

Mark Rahdert (Law): In relation to Deans' Reviews, what is brought back to faculty? Some of it has to be confidential but the information or suggestions about process could come back to us. How many people were interviewed...? And such.

Quaiser Abdullah COE): One of the things that we were told is that no comments could be anonymous. We were also told that when it goes up to the Dean, that all identifying remarks would be removed. How accurate is that policy?

Paul LaFollette: It would also be a good idea to review Associate Deans as well.

What is our recourse when the faculty vote unanimously for change or about some concern? What options do faculty really have?

Cornelius acknowledged that Faculty are concerned about Deans' Reviews and should bring questions for Provost JoAnne Epps to the Sept 17, 2018—representative senate meeting in Kiva.

Vice President Report:

Committee vacancies and issues that need to be dealt with are down.

We are actually doing quite well in most committees. We just need to replace people who have either retired or moved out. Nine faculty have expressed an interest in committee membership. A vote was called to appoint the following faculty to committees:

- Prasun Datta, RPPC
- Geoff Wright, Sabbatical Cmte
- Donna Snow, Status of Women Cmte
- Dieu Nguyen, Status of Women Cmte
- Sally Harrison, UTPAC-A.
- Emily Keshner, UTPAC- B
- Michael McCloskey, International Programs
- Robert McNamee, GEEC

Sapienza seconded, all approved.

Guests:

Justin Miller, Senior Associate Athletics Director, Jeremy Jordan Faculty Athletics Representative, and Jodi Levine Laufgraben Vice Provost, Academic Affairs, Assessment and Institutional Research.

Miller:

We oversee all the student athletes, and we continue to do great things to improve their academic success.

Laufgraben:

With the Resnick Center for Academic Support in her portfolio, one of the programs that they piloted with the implementation of Canvas across the university was the Observer feature in the Canvas platform.

The feature has always been available with Canvas but we had not taken advantage of it. The Observer pilot looked at the functionality of the Canvas features which allows academic advisors an opportunity to see a student athlete's assignments and instructor comments, digitizing some aspects of what was part of the face-to-face observer role. Many other schools and colleges who are using their academic support team similarly use Canvas as a tool.

Some of the challenges we have learned from the Pilot:

Timing of communication were one of the bumps that needed to be worked on.

Justin Miller:

100 or so athletes enrolled in our Summer 2 pilot.

Full time staff members—who are FERPA-trained are the only observers. Student athletes must sign the "Buckley waiver" allowing for the observer to have access to their course materials and assignments.

There are strict rules about what the observer can and cannot do. There is no engagement with the course other than monitoring student progress. This observer function in Canvas only changing the timing and the methodology of monitoring student success.

Miller:

Concerns: We went live and turned it on and then notified faculty.

Communication will be better this time around and the goal is for more transparency.

Students are waived.

We can turn off access to Group assignment and Discussion Boards. The discussion posts will be turned off. Junior student athletes will be the second phase. This phase of the pilot this semester will involve 134 students and 400 faculty.

Emails will go out tomorrow (September 5, 2018)

Faculty can opt out.

The new process ICS identifies which athlete is assigned to which observer within an academic year.

(Unclear, whether advisors would follow them for the full four years matriculation.)

Because of programs that parents can see parent proxy access in grade school and high school, parents have often had observer privilege with their child's work.

Because of this early monitoring in middle and high school, more parents are requesting information about their students (on college campuses and here at Temple.) FERPA still applies. Faculty are not required to give parents information relative to their student grades or assignments.

Q: Will we always have an opt out opportunity?

Laufgraben:

The opt out feature will remain for awhile.

Mid-semester feedback forms will still be required. These Progress reports provide another method at providing resources to promote more student athletes' academic success.

Practical application:

Highest GPA's than ever before. Our performances are doing well.

Based on the metric of a six-year graduation rate of 71 percent. APLA, a cluster initiative Delaware, Buffalo, Stoneybrook Florida—next they will begin to look at gender gap

Jodi suggested that FSSC invite Shawn Abbott, the new Vice Provost for Enrollment Management to make a report.

Temple has 91 percent retention gap financial intervention.

Abdullah (COE): I found out by going into People View to see who is there. Should the observer or can have context for the readings and assignments?

Jodi had to leave a few minutes early to attend another meeting. She indicated that she wants to come back to report out on the first cohort of Fly in Four, and Middle States.

The observer gets an email each time a student has a grade entered into Canvas.

Through the Drop down menu

Q: Someone asked about the platform.

Q: Does Canvas have an observer tab?

Old Business:

List of confirmed 2018-19 Faculty Non-Voting Advisory Members of Committees of the Board of Trustees. Thanks for volunteering!

Academic Affairs Committee:

- Cornelius B. Pratt, Senate President, Klein College of Media and Communication

Alumni Relations and Development Committee:

- Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon, Senate Secretary, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts

Athletics Committee:

- Betsy Barber, School of Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Michael L. Sachs, College of Health Professions

Budget and Finance Committee:

- Rafael Porrata-Doria, Senate Vice President, Beasley School of Law

Executive Committee:

- Cornelius B. Pratt, Senate President, Klein College of Media and Communication

Facilities Committee:

- Betsy Barber, School of Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management
- Sharyn O'Mara, Tyler School of Art

Student Affairs Committee:

- Teresa Gill Cirillo, Fox School of Business
- Melissa Potts, School of Pharmacy

Rahdert asked whether the faculty should continue to submit names unless the Board will offer some meaningful engagement. I think if we were more aggressive, we might have a more meaningful engagement. I would recommend that Cornelius should bring this up to Chairman O'Connor.

Cornelius called for additional reports and issues for further discussion.

- Cornelius met with Chairman O'Connor and he said you have to be there and participate. They do have confidentiality documents that they can recycle for this service as well.
- Ad-hoc committee on faculty governance:
They should meet and make suggestion on how to improve/ contribute to Dean's review.
- Issues of Best Use of Adjuncts—Paul LaFollette:
Is there a policy on the best practice for addressing the issues of adjuncts?
- Assessment of Instruction, Eric Eisenstein

New Business:

Symposium on Childcare at Temple University
Faculty Senate/TAUP October 24, 2018, 3:30-5:30 pm (Marsha Weinraub, Chair of psychology)
Room 217 of Howard Gittis Student Center.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon

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Secretary