

Minutes
Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, September 25, 2018
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 (CST), Mark Rahdert (Law), , Carmen Sapienza (LKSM), J Kimberly Williams (CLA), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Lisa Ferretti (SSW), Austin Leong (KSoD), Melissa Potts (Pharm), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD),

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of September 4, 2018
Second (Carmen)
Approved unanimous

President's Report:

We have an answer for Quaiser's question about chat groups on campus. Answer from Justin Miller, Sr. Director, Athlete Academic Advising.

Observers do not have any access to discussion groups and/or chats at all—observation viewing of assignments and comments from faculty only. No participation in conferences, or messages. We as faculty can limit the number of features that students can see. Again, everybody can opt in or opt out.

"I think we had a very productive meeting on September 17th.

The Provost will meet with us at our next meeting October 16, 2018"

Vice President's Report:

The following faculty were approved for Senate committees:

- Dr. Liz Thomas, College of Public Health - RPPC
- Dr. Robert Li, School of Sport, Tourism, and Hospitality Management - RPPC
- Dr. Trish Jones, Lectures and Forums Committee
- Sharyn O'Mara, for Lectures and Forums Committee
- Quaiser Abdullah for Lectures and Forums Committee

Cheryl will send an updated list for Committee Membership

Guest:

Shawn Abbott, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

"I have been here all of 90 days coming from New York University, Stanford, Columbia, Boston University, Graduate of New Hampshire and South Carolina

For ten years I have worked for universities that were—a global empire although I don't think they would describe themselves as a global empire.

My predecessor Bill Black had a shorter title; I am the Vice Provost for Admissions, Financial Aid and Enrollment Management. Portfolio includes:

Undergraduate Admissions

Graduate School

and the Registrar's office all fall under his portfolio.

We also operate and maintain a separate admission process for Military Veterans

Abbott said that his job is to provide students with a successful experience from admissions through to graduation.

Abbott said he was interested in learning how quickly everybody knows when and why the university was founded and the Russell Conwell philosophy of "acres of diamonds".

Some statistics:

We are currently 106 on the World News Ranking

He said he would have to give us the number of First generation college students in this new year class of 2022.

Give you an update with the class that has just arrived

2022 in terms of fly-in-four

Abbott referred to President Englert's State of the University Address earlier in the month—President Englert credited Temple campuses reaching maximum numbers of over 40,000 students in our programs across 17 schools and colleges for two years in a row. But that's a good thing. We graduated the largest class in the spring - over 10,000 students

7,333 students were admitted, between 55-and 56 percent yield of about 27 percent

2,305 transfer students have joined Temple, which just fell short of our unrealistic number.

There is an undercurrent

5,030 freshman; the goal was 5050

The demand was very healthy; 42,000 applications (?)

On the volume side of the house we are healthy

Academic quality grade point least reliable data point 3.95 across SAT Scores and Alternative Entrance exam, four essay questions. The average SAT, 1237 was the average SAT 27 the average CAT. The request for test optional has decreased. My one concern, is that we ask students to jump through these additional hoops. Are we scaring students from applying.?

And Diversity

Roughly 37 percent self-identified as a person of color; up about 1 percent.

Percentage of students that identified as Latino are 13 percent spike

International gone from 337 to 222 to this year 191—43 percent decline out of the freshman.

We are at the whim of 17 year olds meeting

How many Fly in Four freshman? There is no harm in signing the agreement, thus far, fewer than a handful of students have claimed that they met the check points and couldn't graduate

The Rome Program where students could take their freshman year at Temple Rome has, according to the speaker, had a soft landing. Five American students started their Freshman year there although there has been some surprise that the program did not have as many European applicants as they thought it would.

Porrata-Doria (VP, Law): There is a strong reluctance in Europe to be the pace setters in a new program. You may want to extend this to Tokyo. Once the program gains momentum and a track record, Europeans, but in particular Italian students will be on board.

According to Abbott, Temple is using those two campuses to expand the international admission.

RPD: One of the things that you could also find is that foreign students are not use to paying Temple size tuitions.

While he was willing to share some numbers, we were told that the International students and programs are not under Abbott's portfolio. International reports to Dr. Dai. All things international reports up to Dr Dai. Dr. Dai has given a green light to efforts going back to larger financial awards in the wake of smaller international numbers.

Abbott expressed his surprise when coming to Temple that that the larger student demographic was still comprised by, as he put it, "an ethnic majority". When asked what ethnic group that was, he suggested Temple's student body remains predominately white.

Abbott said, we are probably looking at an even grimmer circumstance. "The last thing I wanted to mention as a heads up about what I'm working on to ensure the university's fiscal health Improve the academic profile.

His plan includes:

- Attracting stronger students
- Strengthening our national profile.
- Becoming Less dependent on the State
- Creating an ethnically diverse student population

Right now we are down to 12.5% of our student population are African America students."

There was a robust discussion about the Conwellian tradition, what the old Russell Conwell Center was about and how it improved student success; the growing numbers of marginalized Philadelphia public school students and what programs might Temple consider.

Abbott indicated that he would love to come back to talk more about what he is imagining for Temple that would, hopefully further link its new goals with its traditions.

Guest:

Our second guest speaker was Gennaro Leva, Vice President Planning and Capital Projects has come to Temple from Drexel. Mr. Leva talked at length about the progress and speed that we're moving, in regards to the physical transformation of Temple University.

Leva: It is a good thing for Temple. I have been here for three years and we are transforming spaces to make them more welcoming...more inviting.

A question was raised about 1810 Liacouras

Leva talked about the difficulties in the Construction business "particularly with one of the rainiest summers that I can remember".

The Charles Library is moving right along; the installation of the granite is going well and the glass is going up on the 4th floor. By next May, they will start moving the books.

The Bell Garage is going to undergo "a redoing". It will add about 200 spaces to the building and be ready by December.

The grounds offices are there now.

As for the Landscapers, we try to do our improvements during the summer. Some of the other areas slated for improvements include:

- Polett Walk
- Liacouras Walk
- The Steam vault—we should be finished by the end of the month.
- Along the library all the way up to Norris—the project will include paving.
- We are putting up an Apple Store on Broad Street where the old climbing wall is.

- Conwell admissions is getting a re-do including:
- Mechanical systems—where students come in and see Temple for the first time—make us compatible.
- A Mitten Hall project is on the table.
- Leva mentioned new organizations and operations
- Looking at alternative energies to make our space sustainable.

Betsy Barber suggested:
Speakman—is like working in a cave

Teresa Cirillo reported:
Teaching in rooms 107 and 211 is severely problematic with the noise from construction.

Cornelius asked:
Can the men do some of the schedule at night?

Leva assured the steering committee that he would speak to his team and try to figure out a schedule to reduce noise and inconvenience because after all, we are here for the students. He did say, however, that by October 25 Speakman has to be ready.

We missed the beginning of the semester as a target. If I have to move the crews to the night then I'm prepared to do that. If we can't teach our students, then what are we doing here. To us that is the most important thing. Once they come back, we have to change strategy.

Paul had a couple of questions for Leva;
Do we have any plans at all for the big mansion that we own on Broad Street?

Leva told the committee that there are four or five million dollars to refurbish that mansion but that everything else indicates that it would take 18 million dollars to bring it up to code and to make it safe.

Betsy mentioned a group that was willing to take it on as a hotel project in exchange for a 99-year lease on the land.

Leva talked about a project at Indiana University where the facility was partially built and then they walked away from it leaving the university holding the bag and liable. He also mentioned that in his experience, anything beyond a fifty-year lease is not approved.

“We shy away from 99 years but 40 or 50 years might be doable because Boards are more likely to listen. That's a fear of bad partnership. Not all partnerships go bad though. There are a lot of good deals.

Research Center—Michele Muscucci was apparently interested in the mansion at one point.

Cornelius asked if Betsy's proposal (through Sport, Tourism and Hospitality Management) can be revived and revisited?

Leva assured the committee that he would be certainly willing to take a look.
“Some ideas can open up, depending upon what time it comes up. It is important for us to be part of the game with the community”.

Paul: Two other comments. It bothers me when I go up to the top floor of our building and look out and see all those flat roofs.

Leva agreed.

"I am a guru of solar power. But we would need help on a lot of that and geo-thermo energy... There is no committee to address the new developments . To my knowledge there is no committee but I see no reason why there can't be."

Vallorie Peridier (Engr): It seems like we are losing classroom space. Is that true?

Paley Library and College of Public Health programming will be opening up new spaces . To find classroom space. We utilize the Center City space; we're up to 67 percent and we only own four floors.

Michael Sachs (Past-Pres., CPH): Speaking of Paley...

Leva: "Once the architects are decided and the books go over [to the Charles] and we will start working on it."

According to Leva, Klein/Tomlinson is the next project.
There was a mention of the Alpha Center???

Paul gave a little history of the Bell Tower.

"It used to be the bell tower used to play the alma mater. Ask Kevin Delaney?" Paul asked Leva if that might be a feature that could come back?

Kim Williams (CLA) asked about the lobby project and the Gladfelter tunnel.

Leva said that the Lobby Project in Gladfelter/Anderson is set to begin soon. "We are trying to renovate that building. The elevator is slow, classrooms on the first five floors. Security is an issue. In fact, Leva suggested that there are fundamental issues with that whole plaza. There was no life there. The new plan is to open up that tunnel . We are trying to bring life and the architects are coming up with ideas that will bring a cafe on the plaza. Part of the design is going to be a phased construction.

Leva's final comments reinforced his belief that everything out of his office has to enhance student life and experience at Temple.

As he said, "I feel for us that our key is teaching students but if we can't teach the students [because of construction or inconvenience] then that's on us. The delay that the rain has caused us...it's been the wettest season I've ever seen; I feel for you. If you can't teach a class. That is almost sacrilegious."

Before adjourning, we welcomed three new members to the steering committee:

Three new members:

Kimberly Williams, College of Liberal Arts
Lisa Ferretti School of Social Work
Austin Leong, Kornberg School of Dentistry

Old Business

Vallorie: All Deans sit as the chair of Collegial Assemblies. Announced at the Deans Retreat
Medical School revised the bylaws to make sure that the Deans

Barber: In STHM Dean is not part of the Collegial Assembly.

Is there a rule?

What is the rule?

Should the topic be revisited?

Teresa:

In the Fox School, the Deans presided over the Collegial Assembly, but we have an interim Dean who is actively making it a real faculty-driven collegial assembly.

Mark Rahdert (Law): I think this is an appropriate thing to take up with the President and Provost. Adamany promulgated a default set of bylaws

Rafael: We went round and round on this issue with Theobald. He never said that a deviation was permissible but he never said it was not permissible. We don't have it at the Law School, and I would really love if we had a president who would say: Yes you may have a president of collegial assembly

Paul: Every single change has to be approved by the Dean and then it has to go to legal.

Quaiser Abdullah (COE): We have a new policy where things go through the CA. And the Dean is reviewing the bylaws as part of his 5-year mandate

Cornelius: The Adhoc committee is in talking to Provost Epps to make this part of the agenda with regard to faculty governance and academic freedom. Should this be one of the items that the Provost might address in our next meeting?

Rafael: But we should not forget this because this is important.

Paul: Faculty Herald - asking Cornelius to write something for next Herald [to inaugurate his administration] and I am asking any of us who are doing anything interesting to do so as well.

New Business

Kimberly: What are our responsibilities as faculty senate representatives?

Cornelius: And you should report to your Collegial Assemblies

Betsy: I want to speak to Kimmika's comment. Is there a facilities committee that we can add to the Provost's list?

Mark: We are told we can't talk to you about the design of the library until we get approval from the Board of Trustees. So if we are going to have a facilities committee, it would have to have faculty on board at a point that we can make an impact.

Teresa and Betsy offered final comments about the construction in their area
Spring semester, wrapped. The initial changes were all cosmetic. This paint was rather noxious and smelly that was maybe making people sick. We need to stay on top of this area of Temple University as it does impact the faculty and our ability to teach.

The Tunnel will be closed for a year. Trains will be difficult to catch. Imagine how congested it will be for students who have to go in the science building to get through to Gladfelter.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn 2:55 p.m.

Next meeting October 9, 2018 1pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon
Secretary