

Minutes
Representative Faculty Senate Meeting
September 17, 2018, 1:45 pm
Kiva Auditorium

Attendance:

Representative Senators and Officers: 45

Ex-Officio: 0

Guests: 19

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:47

Faculty Senate President Cornelius Pratt, presiding

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from meeting January 22 approved without amendment. Minutes from March 20, 2018 approved without amendment

It was reported that Provost Epps was called to an emergency meeting by the President but that she will be here on October 16, 2018.

President's Report: Cornelius B. Pratt

In the President's report, CP talked about:

Four things based on initial meeting from FSSC September 4, 2018

1) Observers in our classroom

Student Athlete Resource Center - the second phase of a pilot project using the Canvas platform. Although new to Temple, this is not a new program. It is being used nationwide to monitor student athletes and improve student success.

What is this program all about?

The athletic department advisors are using this new feature on the Canvas Platform to promote success and to keep up with student progress by monitoring assignments and faculty feedback.

This effort encourages athletes to do the best that they can with advisors acting as observers to classroom content and assignments on Canvas to view and access student progress.

The program is designed specifically to promote student success.

Pilot-tested second summer session 2018 and now, they are in the second phase of testing the efficacy of the observer feature.

Since summer II, the pilot process has been tweaked, revised, and updated. Being more communicative with faculty prior to turning on the observer function was one of the improvements that came directly out of feedback from faculty following the implication of the observer function and the initial summer testing.

Some of the Key problems that Pratt outlined

Pre and post communication ensuring that faculty can opt in or out of the program

- Observers on Canvas cannot view certain documents
- Observers cannot view or act on certain conditions

Some of the items that they can view:

- Syllabi
- Test grades
- Progress comments in assignments

Rubrics

Conference pages

Content pages that have information on them

Test grades

Paper grades

Cannot view:

Grades for quizzes (?)

But they can only view the work of the individual student

Cannot view:

Discussion board comments

Classroom chat features

Comments on other students' work

Likewise, they cannot request a change of grade

A course roster

This is an early intervention program

By the way, student athletes are usually monitored by universities nationwide

Call for comments/questions

Steve Newman (CLA/Pres., TAUP): Glad that this was brought to the union as well. Happy that they are consulting with faculty but we would hope that they consult us *before* these initiatives are piloted.

Q: Student group work: If the observers have access to those content materials, it raises issues of confidentiality. How is the observer feature functioning in that respect?

Q: Quaiser Abdullah (COE): Can we forward this question to Justin Miller to get a final answer about this issue on the group work function of Canvas because that is a very important one?

CP reports that each instructor can customize the links on their web pages. This way, faculty can limit what the observers can see.

We hope that as the program progresses, that faculty will be kept abreast of changes/outcomes.

There were questions raised about intellectual property.

Questions about intellectual property were addressed.

If a professor creates a rubric, video, or assignments, who owns it?

2) Freedom of speech.

What falls under Freedom of speech?

Is student work or comments guarded by Freedom of speech?

For Faculty:

Faculty tend not to be vocal and the Provost suggests that tenured faculty who have some kind of safety net can express more of their viewpoints. This is a risky business and sometimes faculty that express their opinion receive blow back or retaliation.

CP reported that groups like Faculty Senate and TAUP must try to engage the administration with an understanding about why faculty governance and participation has been so low in recent years.

Integrity:

In light of recent events, faculty have been asking about transparency.

Transparency is an issue on campus. Who makes the decisions on *how* decisions and policies are made?

3) Child Care Symposium October 24, 2018, 3:30 p.m., room 217, Howard Gittis Student Center.
Open to all staff, administrators, students, faculty to encourage a responsive childcare program.

4) Survey to resolve some Academic freedom and faculty governance issues. In collaboration with TAUP

Steve Newman talked about the upcoming joint Faculty Senate and TAUP survey on Faculty Governance. We are hoping to release the survey on Faculty Governance the Week of September 17th. It has 35 questions.

There was some discussion on the definition of faculty governance.

What is the role of Faculty Senate versus what should be the role of Faculty Senate?

Questions around faculty governance is (or should be) really the work of Faculty Senate.

The union and the senate are two separate institutions.

Everything from Dean's reviews to being involved in committee work is faculty governance and falls under the purview of Faculty Senate.

General question:

Do you have a collegial assembly that is actually functional and meaningful and that listens to you?

And of course conversations with Administrators...

There needs to be space for faculty and librarians where they can speak amongst themselves
Report on the State of Faculty Governance.

Watch your emails.

Vice President's report: Rafael Porrata-Doria:

Listed are current committee vacancies:

Budget Review Committee - 1

Educational Programs and Policies Committee (EPPC) - 1

Faculty Herald Advisory Committee - 1

Lectures and Forums Committee - 5

Library Committee - 2

Research Programs and Policies Committee (RPPC) - 1

Faculty Senate Committees vacancies have been very easy this year because of Cornelius' efforts as vice president last year. We have very few vacancies compared to the beginning of other years. For those individuals interested in serving on a faculty senate committee, please send a statement of interest and bio link to Rafael.porrata-doria@temple.edu and copy senate@temple.edu)

Senate Website:

We are at the point of updating our website from last year and we have people working on helping with a new website.

Michele Masucci, Vice President for Research:

Reminded faculty who raised issues of intellectual property with regard to Canvas course room content and the like. As Research Programs and Policies falls within her portfolio, these questions can be addressed to her office. Right now, her office is looking into limited submission policies and other facades of course creation and content as work for hire.

This issue provoked a robust discussion.

It has provoked a need for a more formal process. I would also suggest sending questions and concerns to Research.feature.edu (I'm not sure whether this is what Michele meant ???)

Or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=luwFwE3tKZQ>

Masucci also talked about the upcoming October 15, 2018 Research Credibility and Data Conference. The conference will address issues on the public communication of research.

Last comment:

Masucci further told the group as her last comment regarding Intellectual property; I hope you will loop in my office as we are the office that oversees this issue.

That concluded the Vice president's report and discussion of committees.

New Business:

Any concerns, issues or suggestions? We are open to suggestions.

Please remember the Child Care Symposium October 24, 2018.

Please remember to fill out the Survey on Academic Freedom and Shared Governance.

Provost JoAnne Epps will be here October 16, 2018.

Old Business:

None.

Motion to adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon
Secretary