Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, February 7, 2023 – 6:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

Present: Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (Pres., TFMA), Shohreh Amini (V. President, CST), Quaiser Abdullah (Secy., KMC), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-Pres., Law), Nicholas Bizzaro (KSoD), Heath Davis (CLA), Dale Haines (LKSM), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Di Liu (CEHD), Barry McCarthy (Law), George Miller (Ed., Faculty Herald, KMC), Vallorie Peridier (COE), Rick Ridall (STHM), Michael Schirmer (FSBM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD) Ryan Tierney (CPH), Shinya Watanabe (TUJ)

Absent: Cheri Carter (SSW), Sharyn O'Mara (TYL)

Admin: Cheryl Mack

Guest: Jason Norris, Instructor, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts

Meeting Called to Order: 6:00pm

- **Motion**: Request to approve Minutes of January 24, 2023
    - Edit in President's Report: Recommendations for CEHD dean's search and committee vacancies sent to Provost office
        - Change approved
    - **Minutes approved by majority vote**
- President's Report
    - Stephanie Fiore and Lori Salem will come to RFS meeting to discuss how AI can be used in classrooms
    - Temple Press Advisory Board discussing AI: Scholars can now use AI to write books
    - Jeff Doshna – TAUP President – requested Faculty Senate issue a statement on academic freedom
        - **Jeff Solow and Kimmika will discuss and bring something back to the committee for further discussion**
    - CLA faculty sent letter to Senate pertaining to NTT dismissals and non-renewals of contracts. Requested Faculty Senate to investigate and gather data on workload policies across university
        - Per contract – Workload policy falls under TAUP and Collegial Assembly and deans
        - Committee engaged in a discussion on processes for contract renewal across colleges
        - Committee did not see a need to pursue this further
    - University morale is low. Social justice issues, high-profile transitions and budget concerns
        - Question – Why do we not have Ambler reps on senate?
        - **Motion: Faculty Senate grants Senate president permission to explore seeking campus representatives from Rome, Ambler and Harrisburg to be on Faculty Senate.**

- **Opposed – 1; No abstentions; Motion carries by majority vote**
    - COVID 19 – University not tracking cases and students not required to report COVID status
    - PA Leadership – Universities in high deficit. Lincoln U considering adding voting adjunct faculty members to the board of trustees.
    - Temple Board of Trustees still considering how to have a non-voting faculty member on BoT
    - Contingent Faculty and shared governance – VP asked to check in on progress on contingent faculty and shared governance progress – how can we be inclusive of contingent faculty in shared governance?
    - Faculty Senate president asked for a list of adjunct faculty to include in mailings at start of semester. Provost office evaluating how FS can get the list
    - Penn State has FT reporter on staff. Question raised: Should TU explore the addition of additional staff for Faculty Herald? No further discussion was raised on this issue.
    - Units in university have been asked to reduce budgets by various percentages to compensate for 65-million-dollar deficit
- Vice-President's Report
    - Candidates for International Programs – Di Liu and Eric Borguet
        - **Unanimous approval**
    - Candidate for Status of Faculty of Color – Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon
        - **Unanimous approval**
    - FSSAOS Award recommendations will be submitted to the Cheryl Mack by February 8
- Guest: Jason Norris
    - Started with background of how he uses AI in the past and the professional organizations with which he is associated
    - AI is not new. Has been part of our daily lives (Google, Siri, Alexa, etc)
    - Presentation on AI (See enclosed PDF of presentation)
        - AI is here to stay so best to incorporate into teaching
        - AI used in Creative Space (art generators, music composers, writing tools, video editors)
        - Pros of using in academic environment: speed, accessibility, inspiration, cost-effective
        - Cons of using in academic environment: lack of originality, technical limitations – rendering colors, etc., lack of control – limited range of customization, quality
        - Links to AI resources shared with committee
        - Sidenote: Text for presentation used was created using AI
    - Demonstrated ChatGPT
        - Does not pull from the Internet. Content / learning based on user input
        - Shared examples of script creation using AI
        - Presenter summary: can share general information but specifics and minute detail missing. Expertise necessary to decipher and interpret
    - Demonstrated DALL.E
        - Image generation based on a song was creative
    - Demonstrated cactus.ai

- - - Many tools for student use in completing assignments
  - New Career Opportunity may exist in training folks to ask the most effective text-based questions in an AI
  - Questions
    - How does AI generated content not violate university plagiarism policies?
      - It most likely violates university's policy on plagiarism
      - OpenAI has a tester app to see if it is AI generated or not. Testing tool could not recognize AI-generated content with consistency
      - Tool to assess AI usage: https://gptzero.me
    - Conversation ongoing on what percentage of change needs to be made for it to be considered "original" work
    - How effectively can it cite in APA, MLA, etc?
      - Cactus.ai has some capability
      - ChatGPT will have access to internet in 1 year
      - Microsoft investing 10billion into ChatGPT
    - ChaptGPT embedded into Microsoft Teams
- New Business
  - Request for chair of Personnel Committee – Tenured Professor required
    - Shohreh, Barry and Rafael will discuss and respond to Kimmika with recommendations by 2/15/2023
- Old Business
  - NA

Meeting Adjourned: 7:52pm

Respectfully Submitted

Quaiser Abdullah

February 7, 2023