

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, March 28, 2023 – 1:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

Present: Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (Pres., TFMA), Shohreh Amini (V. President, CST), Quaiser Abdullah (Secy., KMC), Cheri Carter (SSW), Heath Davis (CLA), Dale Haines (LKSM), Di Liu (CEHD), Barry McCarthy (Law), Sharyn O'Mara (TYL), Vallorie Peridier (COE), Rick Ridall (STHM), Michael Schirmer (FSBM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Ryan Tierney (CPH)

Absent: Nicholas Bizzaro (KSoD), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), George Miller (Ed., Faculty Herald, KMC), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-Pres., Law), Shinya Watanabe (TUJ)

Admin: Cheryl Mack

Guests:

- Jay Sinha, Faculty Senate Library Committee
- Slava Rom, Research Programs and Policies Committee
- Jeffrey Boles, University Honors Program Oversight Committee
- Sherri Hope Culver, Committee for International Programs

Meeting Called to Order: 1:01pm

- **Motion:** Request to approve Minutes of March 14, 2023
 - **Minutes approved by unanimous vote**
- President's Report
 - Security
 - 12 additional bike patrols – two-man team
 - 130 more on-campus beds (The Edge) for students at reduced rate of \$500
 - 30 additional Allied (1500 total)
 - 66 properties updated security around campus to the cost of \$100,000
 - 22nd District partnership with Temple for City to advocate for City to start the Safe Corridors program in North Philly
 - Navigator Hub on Broad Street to facilitate community engagement (CPH students will support this site) – Central location to understand Temple offerings to the community
 - New Enrollment Manager being hired
 - Financial Aid
 - New scholarship opportunities; new center for Mental Health
- Vice-President's Report
 - List of candidates presented
 - Jennifer Brown (CPH), Committee. for International Programs
 - Shreyasee Das (CLA), Status of Women Committee
 - Crystal Harold (FSB), Budget Review Committee

- Edmund Lafer (FSB), Budget Review Committee
 - Ksenia Power (CPH), Committee. for International Programs
 - Lin Zhu (LKSM), Student Awards Selection Committee
 - Sergio Franco (CLA): Committee for International Programs
 - **Candidates Approved Unanimously**
 - Vacancies for various committees
 - Bargaining Unit Liaison (5)
 - Budget Review (4)
 - International Programs (3)
 - Adjunct Constituency (2 – FT and 2 – Adjuncts)
 - Status of Faculty of Color (3)
 - Research Programs and Policy (4)
 - Herald (4)
 - GenEd Exec (5)
 - Lectures and Forums (5)
 - Library (3 – Appointed)
 - Personnel (1)
 - Student Awards (2) – Provost Committee
 - University Honors Oversight (1)
 - University Sabbatical (6)
 - University Tenure (UTPACA – 1; UTPACC – 2)
 - **Motion to approve list of proposed candidates**
 - **Approved by unanimous consent**
- Guests:
 - Slava Rom, Chair, Research Programs and Policy Committee (RPPC)
 - Tenure on committee is currently 5 years
 - Working to figure out role of RPPC – Evaluating role in OVPR in the future
 - Distributed grant seed money to research faculty based on money granted by Faculty Senate
 - Reported that some recipients were able to use the funds to gather research data and may generate publications
 - Plans to propose suggestion for each school to have a representative on RPPC
 - Questions:
 - Who received funding?
 - Faculty from: CST, Fox, CPH
 - How are reviews conducted? How diverse is the review committee?
 - Previous year was dry-run. Only relied on expertise of members on committee. Goal to have representatives from other colleges will help address this issue.
 - Will help if Temple has database of faculty with skills, interests and resources
 - Database may exist in OVPR. Provost’s office also working on comparable database.
 - RPPC seeking other ways to contribute to the research agenda of the university

- Jay Sinha, Chair, Faculty Senate Library Committee
 - Representation from various schools and colleges
 - Committee meets monthly - Dean Lucia supportive and engaged in the committee meetings
 - Committee functions in advisory, consultative and interpretative roles
 - Achievements – Textbook Affordability Project (Center for Scholarly Publishing); Improving Library User Experience;
 - Students have noted that sound and congestion is sometimes a problem in the library
 - Committee also populated by members of the library units
 - Chair will make request for library to be more communicative on new items at the library
 - Questions
 - How quickly does the BookBot handle requests?
 - Wait time is short
 - Are there current librarians on the committee?
 - No FT librarians on the committee
 - Are there plans to bring back library events?
 - Will make suggestions to committee. Chair encouraged to place events on university calendar
 - What will be the summer hours?
 - Need to check to verify
- Jeff Boles, Chair, University Honors Program Oversight Committee
 - Committee has been fairly active. Meets 3 times each semester (virtual or in-person).
 - Examples of issues committee address:
 - Work with honors to create strategic plan that aligns with university strategic plan. Honors has great ideas with limited resources.
 - GPA requirements for honors students – Asking critical questions around the significance and importance of using GPA as determining factor in student membership
 - Questions
 - What is the incoming average GPA?
 - Around 3.6
 - Critical question – How can Honors connect with whole university and not seem elitist?
 - When can a student join Honors – a student in a later semester of their journey?
 - What are the factors being considered in admission to Honors?
 - Currently mainly just the GPA
 - What are the demographics?
 - Number of non-White students has increased
 - Jeff will get data from director of Honors on what is the increase and possible reason for increase

- Has the decrease in university admissions resulted in decrease in honors admission?
 - No significant drop-off noted. Data will be obtained and distributed
- How are applications reviewed?
 - Process is collaborative between Admissions and Director. Director can make recommendations to Admissions.
- What is the process to invite more faculty to teach Honors courses?
 - Process is more formalized. Presentation made at recent meeting of chairs in CLA.
- How can students take non-Honors courses for Honors credit?
 - There is an agreement/contract made between the student, faculty and Honors program
- What is the possibility of opening up admission to Honors at a later stage in college career?
 - The current structure make that difficult as Honors is designed to have students take core in Honors classes
- Sherri Hope Culver, Chair, International Programs Committee
 - First year as chair
 - Goals – Keep group on track and think ahead to future activities
 - Global Temple Conference – Major accomplishment. Committee on track to be more involved with Global Engagement and the conference. Conference was successful.
 - Discussions on Temple’s role in supporting scholars who are at risk (non-US scholars who are at risk/ in need). Consideration around creating a proposal for a more institutional approach for supporting scholars.
 - Temple joined the Scholars at Risk organization
 - Need to create a strategic plan for group
 - Questions
 - What discussions have there been on the committee on opening up opportunities for students to study abroad (transfer and science)?
 - Nothing prevents transfer students from traveling. The challenge is in the schedule. Will take to the committee to discuss further – maybe speak directly to transfer students.
 - What is the vision/role with respect to attracting more international students? How can we streamline the process?
 - The coordination of the engaging multiple international efforts is challenging
 - How can help be given to faculty to start the process?
 - Maybe a forum to educate faculty on how to establish relationships and learn best practices
 - How does Temple currently evaluate where relationships should be established?
 - International Educators Academy coming back in fall 2023

- Creation of a database on all programs
 - Establishment of a Fulbright coordinator duties/roles
 - New Business
 - Discussion on RPPC and how it selected recipients of seed grants. FSSC members expressed feeling excluded when presenter outlined the members of the committees
 - Lecture and Forums Committee – Chair is stepping down. Need to revisit the role and intention of the committee. Range of applications not expansive.
 - There may be some money outstanding
 - There were some approvals for \$500
 - Updated process made things more difficult
 - Suggestion to create more opportunities for discussion between the Lectures and Forums Committee and other committees that host events
 - Old Business
 - NA

Meeting Adjourned: 3:03pm

Respectfully Submitted

Quaiser Abdullah

March 28, 2023