

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Tuesday, November 29, 2022 – 1:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

Present: Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (Pres., TFMA), Shohreh Amini (V. President, CST), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-Pres., Law), Nicholas Bizzaro (KSoD), Cheri Carter (SSW), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Dale Haines (LKSM), Dustin Kidd (CLA), Di Liu (CEHD), Barry McCarthy (Law), Rick Ridall (STHM), Michael Schirmer (FSBM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD)

Absent: Quaiser Abdullah (Secy., KMC), George Miller (Ed., Faculty Herald, KMC) Sharyn O'Mara (TYL), Vallorie Peridier (COE), Ryan Tierney (CPH)

Admin: Cheryl Mack

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of November 8, 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted.

3. President's Report:

- The civic wellness day for elections motion has been sent to Provost office. He has asked for recommendations of individuals to sit on the election resolution working group. Was passed on to CATA for candidates as well for the CST and CPH dean search committees; candidates cannot be part of the school/college. Send recommendations to Shohreh and Kimmika. Deadline for names was November 7th.
- Regarding resolutions: the value of resolutions are basically in the symbolic power; we have no power to make administration do anything. If full faculty are in favor then it is to our advantage when resolutions are passed on. However, when there are too many, they lose their symbolic power. Currently there are three other resolutions that wants to come before the senate. A discussion of the resolutions issue followed.

Comments:

- Senators should be able to discuss any resolution put before them and decide to put forth the resolution.
- Should discuss what we want the resolution process to become and that's a question to the committee.
- There is a balance that should be maintained; don't want to be in a situation where items of concern of the faculty cannot be brought up as a resolution.

4. Vice President's Report:

One candidate for a senate committee:

Wendy Cheesman (CPH) for the Committee on Adjunct Constituency Concerns.

Vote unanimously approved appointment to the CACC committee.

5. Old Business:

Spoke with Jeremy Jordan (V. Provost, Faculty Affairs) regarding emeritus faculty. The 2007 faculty handbook amendment on emeritus faculty approval is the current protocol. No reason why the FSSC

could not make recommendations for emeritus faculty to chairs/deans, but final approval goes through the Council of Deans. So, to answer the question from last meeting, all deans automatically get emeritus status as well as full professors upon retirement and full time non-tenure track professors who have served the university for at least 15 years upon approval. Also, the potential for other professors who have gone through nomination process.

6. New Business:

Questions that faculty have about what they should know should there be a strike by TUGSA. What should faculty do the next day once a strike is declared regarding courses that have TAs among other things. Seems a lack of information or there is misinformation. Graduate students that we supervise or otherwise work with may have questions. Faculty need information from administration regard how the issues work for faculty and their role in it.

Q: do we know how likely there will be a TUGSA strike?

A: not sure; no updates have occurred since their last meeting – again a lack of information.

Will discuss with the provost during our next executive committee's meeting with him.

Other comments:

TAUP is not allowed to officially support a strike.

Should faculty senate come out one way or the other if there is a strike? Since FS represents all faculty, should not take a position on this action. Individuals may take any position they prefer.

We don't have any information and will not have any answers to questions or any advice until there is an actual strike. Also, if there is a strike can faculty decline any additional work that is not being done by graduate students. The TAUP contract states that we are not allowed to decline work.

Can support TUGSA's aims and goals but not anything related to the strike.

Q: Regarding university deficit that was discussed during a previous meeting [Jeff Doshna was the guest]. Need clarification regarding university deficit and enrollment decline. Facing deficit which may impact faculty, should we begin having conversations with faculty on the issue or should we just make an announcement? Should we solicit information on how we as faculty can help the university?

A: Still trying to get Ken Kaiser at one of FSSC/FS meetings to get more information about the budget. Provost has spoken about the deficit at FSSC so you may be able to discuss with collegial assemblies those items that Provost Mandel referenced during our meetings.

Regarding FSSC luncheon: choice would be the Diamond Club or outside catering. Majority of committee prefers outside catering. Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13th, noon.

7. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm

Submitted by,

Cheryl Mack
Administrative Coordinator