

Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 – 6:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Present: Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (Pres., TFMA), Lisa Ferretti (V. President, SSW), Ashley Stewart (Secy., SSW), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-Pres., Law), Quaiser Abdullah (KMC), Shohreh Amini (CST), Cheri Carter (SSW), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Robin Kolodny (CLA), Barry McCarthy (Law), Vallorie Peridier (Engr), Michael Schirmer (FSB), Shinya B. Watanabe (TUJ), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Maia Cucchiara (CEHD), Dale Haines (LKSM), Nichola Kinch (TYL), Rick Ridall (STHM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Ryan Tierney (CPH)

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

2. Guest: Gregory Mandel, Senior Vice President and Provost

Provost Mandel began by thanking the committee and Quaiser Abdullah (KMC) for his work with the Temple Muslim community. Also, thanks to Jason Gallagher (Phar) and Robyn Kolodny (CLA) for serving on the dean search committees for the Law School and the Medical School.

Strategic Plan:

Wingard has a strategic Plan for the university. Will place the academic mission at the core. Overall coordination across the university and the academic values across the university.

Identifying strategic themes then doing outreach for what kinds of action items and put together in the strategic plan.

Opportunity:

How to provide next generation of access throughout the university. Pipelines for enrollment to insure inclusive community with student support both academically and non-academically.

Education elements to develop curricula and apply it to the future of learning in the workforce. Seeking opportunities to elevate community engagement.

Brief summary of the questions the FSSC asked the provost:

Q: Do you anticipate strategic planning steering committee coming back?

A: Yes, there is a plan in consideration.

Q: Thoughts on technological innovations:

A: Are important, and important to do it right and ethically. Technology in teaching, and also teaching tech skills including the integration of more sophisticated artificial intelligence and data science.

Q: What are systems in place to manage relationships between senior and junior faculty?

A: Concerns in relationships should be brought the attention of the Vice Provost of Academic Affairs and the ethics and compliance hotline.

<https://www.temple.edu/about/ethics-compliance/helpline>

Follow Up Q: What about an ombudsperson person?

Follow Up A: The FSSC can request that an ombudsperson be a lead priority request for the Provost Office.

Updates on Searches: Law School Dean, Med School Dean, Vice Provost of Faculty Affairs, Vice Provost of Strategic Planning, Task Force on Violence Reduction, Task Force on Mental Wellness.

3. Update from Quaiser Abdullah (KMC) Muslim Student Association Initiative

There was a critical need which resulted in a campaign to have prayer room. Currently on the ground floor of Paley, zoom room was converted to prayer room, and there is a plan to dedicate a larger space to an interfaith prayer room.

4. President's Report

President Williams-Witherspoon met with the Pennsylvania Leadership Group, January 20th. A major issue that was discussed is the revocation of the tenure of Oliver Baker.

President Williams-Witherspoon asked the group whether we should continue to meet online via zoom or meeting back in person. The consensus of folks who shared is that a mix between online and in-person would be ideal.

5. Vice-President's Report

Vice-President Ferretti gave an update on the opening for the Faculty Herald Advisory Board, and Editor Position opening. <https://facultysenate.temple.edu/committees/faculty-herald-advisory-board-2021-2022>

Submitted by,

Ashley Stewart, Faculty Senate Secretary