

Annual Report of the Faculty Senate Status of Women Committee

FSSW 2021-2022

Chair: Nilgun A. Okur, Professor, Africology, College of Liberal Arts

April 28, 2022

I am happy to report that our membership has reached to 13, which is very pleasing. The committee met in fall and spring via zoom meetings.

Our primary goal in 2022 is to organize and launch our conference, scheduled for fall 2022. A sub-committee has been established by Drs. Alexa Firat and Donna Snow. The theme is “Life, Health, Work, Family: Women’s Balancing Act Under Covid-19.” Nilgun has sent out three invitations to potential speakers. We expect to hear responses in a few weeks and determine the speakers’ names for the event. We welcome ideas and participants from other FS committees.

We need volunteers who can devote time for the conference. Please contact Nilgun A. Okur, anadolu@temple.edu

During my previous terms as the chair of the committee we tackled several issues including child-care on campus, as well as establishing a venue for a mentoring network, based upon volunteering, among women faculty. “Childcare on campus” was discussed in 2015. We want to re-visit this topic.

Another concern that was discussed in our 2016 meetings was about parenting and tenure. “How does one stop the tenure-clock while parenting?” “If your child was born before you were hired at TU, or while you were being hired, or after you were hired, what are the consequences of this development for you? Why is it different if your child was born while you were at TU?” We plan to bring up these issues in 2022 and 2023 through guest lecturers. In 2022 our committee members renewed their major concern as “pay-equity.” We want to invite a representative from HR, as well as a representative from TAUP in order to be further informed, and whether there is a large disparity between schools, and ranks, but primarily between male and female faculty.

Brown Bags for lunch: we will initiate informal meetings once a month, either in room 101 at Tech Center, or at the Faculty Lounge, or at Women’s Studies Lounge, in Mazur Hall, 8th floor. We plan to start Brown Bags in fall 2022 if Covid measures are lifted.