

MINUTES
October 29, 2025
Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 29, 2025– 1:00 to 3:00 PM
In Person: Conference Room 3B Conwell Hall, 3rd Floor

Present in person: Shohreh Amini (President, CST), Mike Bognanno (Vice President, CLA), Chad Curtis (TYL), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Robin Kolodny (Secretary), Gareth Jones (STHM), Sabrina Minhas (TSPM), Jason Norris (TFMA), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD)

Present via Zoom: Fauzia Ahmad (COE), Dale Haines (LKSOM), Di Liu (CEHD), Barry McCarthy (Law), Deborah Racano (KMC), Ryan Tierney (CPH), Michael Schirmer (FSB),

Absent: James D. Brown (TJU)-excused, Renee Fennell (KSoD), Lisa Ferretti (SSW), Stan McDonald (CLA, Fac. Herald), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-President, Law),

Admin: Sean Starosta

1. The meeting came to order at 1:07 p.m.
2. President's Report: Shohreh Amini

An amendment to the “Resolution in Defense of Academic Freedom, Institutional Integrity, and the Research Enterprise” passed by the University Faculty Senate on May 19, 2025 was introduced at the Representative Faculty Senate meeting on October 23, 2025 in response to new action by the Trump Administration toward higher education institutions. The FSSC was asked to approve this amendment and if approved, circulate it to the Representative Faculty Senate for approval by an electronic vote. The amendment reads:

“Whereas on October 1, 2025, the United States Secretary of Education requested that nine universities review and provide feedback on a “Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education.” This Compact contains provisions that endanger the independence, excellence, and integrity of universities and infringe on the constitutional rights of the university communities.

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Temple University opposes this Compact and calls upon President Fry and the Temple Board of Trustees to reject this Compact as well as any similar proposal compromising the mission, values and independence of Temple University, should it be asked to accept it.”

A motion to approve this amendment was made and seconded. The vote to approve the amendment was unanimous. The FSSC agreed to send the resolution to elected Representative Faculty Senators for approval.

3. Approval of Minutes: October 15, 2025 - Minutes approved unanimously

4. Guest arrived at 1:21 p.m. – Martin Droz – AVP for Planning and Design at Temple

Droz gave an overview of the current master plan for main campus. Highlights included plans to demolish Beury Hall, repurpose the Biolife building, construct a new science building, and add more student housing. He departed the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

5. Our second guest, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Jen Wood began her presentation at 2:03 p.m. Her agenda included faculty mentoring and tenure and promotion guidelines.

Current actions on faculty mentoring include:

- a. NCFDD – We are now members of the National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity – all faculty were sent a message to get access to a variety of resources. Mentoring resources are included.
- b. With the Dean of Graduate School, the VP for faculty sent an invitation to all faculty for a 2 day workshop on mentoring. They can accommodate up to 32 people. Applications close on November 7, 2025.
- c. New Mentoring Awards will now be included with other faculty awards for research and teaching. Need a faculty senate representative to be “elected” for this committee – any full time faculty can serve.
- d. Faculty program development lab – training faculty who can take students abroad as part of a course. Have a current cohort of 12 faculty.
- e. CAT has a faculty learning community
- f. Co-chairing Faculty Roles Task Force

2. Tenure-line Faculty

- a. different types of mentoring should be proposed upon hire
- Jen Wood left at 2:58 p.m.

5. Vice President's Report: Mike Bognanno

6. Old Business

Discussion about FSSC membership on Board of Trustee Committees. Robin Kolodny volunteered to contact Mike Gebhardt about Board Committees.

7. New Business

New business: RPPC Committee members – need more people. Mike Bognanno will look into this.

8. The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Kolodny
Faculty Senate Secretary