

Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2020
3B Conwell Hall
Minutes

Attendance:

Present: Rafael Porrata-Doria (Pres., Law), Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (V. Pres., TFMA), Lisa Ferretti (Secy, SSW), Quaiser Abdullah (KMC), Shohreh Amini (CST), Betsy Barber (STHM), Maia Cucchiara (COE), Sue Dickey (CPH), Rob Fauber (CLA), Paul LaFollette (Fac. Herald, CST), Salim Merali (Pharm), Sharyn O'Mara (ART & ARCH), Vallorie Peridier (Engr), Mark Rahdert (Law), Carmen Sapienza (LKSM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSB)

1. Call to Order

The President called the meeting to order at 1:05PM.

2. Guest: Jodi Levine Laufgraben, Vice Provost (1:00 pm) –

The Middle States Commission on Accreditation (MSC Accreditation) will be conducting their 10-year review next week. Levine Laufgraben reported on the upcoming visit by Middle States and provided a briefing to the FSSC about the particulars of the meeting scheduled for next week. The intent of the review is to ensure that Temple University meets all seven standards of the MSC Accreditation standards. A packet of materials was provided to FSSC members for review prior to the Accreditation Team Visit next week. In particular, FSSC members should review provided materials to be prepared to discuss Standard Seven which is focused on faculty governance; Standard Three related to Academic Programs; and Standard Two on Ethics and Integrity. Materials related to the Standards and other pertinent materials were distributed to FSSC members.

3. Approval of February 4, 2020 Minutes

The President called for any additions or changes to the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

4. President's Report

Item 1: The President asked the Chair of the Faculty Senate Service Awards Committee for a report on the outcomes of this process. The Chair FSOFSA had twelve nominees, 4 candidates were selected through committee vote and in keeping with the established criteria. The awardees of the FSOFSA are: Maurice Wright, Boyer College of Music and Dance; Gerald Stahler, College of Liberal Arts; Paul LaFollette, College of Science and Technology; and Ellen Walker, School of Pharmacy.

Once completed, all remaining awardees were considered for the FSSA awards. The following were selected in keeping with the established criteria: Frank Farley, College of Education, Xiang (Robert) Li, School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Byron Wolfe, Tyler School of Art and Architecture; Ellie Margolis, Beasley School of Law; Laurie Kilpatrick, Lewis Katz School of Medicine; Lawrence Carey, School of Pharmacy Shohreh Amini, College of Science and Technology; Dennis Silage, College of Engineering; Srimati Mukherjee, College of Liberal Arts; and W. Geoffrey Wright, College of Public Health.

An FSSC member asked the Chair for information about the route for nominations and it was reported that various methods were used. It was also reported that there were some Schools or Colleges that did not nominate anyone for awards; therefore, only ten faculty were awarded the FSSA recognition.

The President reported that sitting members of the FSSC (provided not retiring) were not established eligible for the FSOFA or FSSA awards this year. This practice will be codified in the established policy document for future reference.

Item 2:

The President reported that several members of the FSSC provided ideas for the work of the FSSC in the coming year. At this time those items will be held for a future discussion with the FSSC.

Item 3:

The President reported that next week we have meetings with the Middle States Commission on Accreditation on Tuesday and also have a Faculty Representative Meeting on Monday with several guest speakers scheduled to appear.

Item 4:

The President reported that Tricia Jones, Chair, Department of Communication and Social Influence asked for representation from the FSSC on the ADR Planning Committee. The group is currently looking for representatives from the Senate who would be interested in joining the committee.

A member raised the concern that this is a significant time commitment. The President clarified that this particular group is the planning and not the implementation group.

Several members of the FSSC offered to join the planning group.

One member raised that the time commitment related to this planning group is related to the items for consideration in our discussions with TAUP representatives.

Item 5:

The President raised a discussion about prior conversations about student wellness and mental health. The President reported a discussion with a representative of a student organization that utilizes students to do outreach dinners for students to support one another. The President asked if the FSSC might want to consider having the representative of the organization attend and present information on the model.

A member raised whether or not the FSSC was the correct group for this presentation. The President reported that by learning through the proposed presentation might help the FSSC to understand how to best direct these efforts.

A member mentioned that this would be a good idea but there is truly a need for a much larger discussion about student concerns and student wellness.

One member reported that there is also a need for supports for Temple Faculty related to these types of tragedies. The Vice President reported that currently there is not a mechanism to address the inform faculty on these issues.

A discussion among FSSC members considered the ways specific student deaths have been addressed, when and why some things become public, and the role of the University community of faculty, students and administrators in supporting all students.

There was a further discussion of suicide in the student population and the limited services available that are largely unable to meet the identified needs. A member noted the need for advocacy to the University about the stress on these systems and the available resources. The Vice President suggested that we invite guests to a Representative Faculty Senate Meeting to discuss this issue.

The President wrapped up the discussion by noting that this is a priority discussion for the FSSC and that presentations on this information to the FSSC and the Representative Faculty Senate should be planned.

5. Vice President's Report

Item 1:

The Vice President reported vacancies that will be coming up at the end of this semester. The list of openings was provided. The list of nominees was also presented to FSSC members. The Vice President asked for discussion on each of the candidates. No discussion was requested. A vote on each candidate was made and each nominee was carried by a motion, second followed by a unanimous vote.

Deborah Blair, School of Sport, Tourism & Hospitality Management: Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on Faculty Disabilities Concerns.

Katey Burke, Assistant Professor of Research, Department of Teaching and Learning
Senior Research Associate, Institute on Disabilities: Committee on the Status of Women.

Dan A. Liebermann, Professor of The Fels Institute for Cancer Research and Molecular
Biology, Professor of Biochemistry: Committee for Administrative and Trustee
Appointments.

Patrick J. McDonnell, Professor of Clinical Pharmacy: Faculty Senate Committee for
International Programs.

Item 2:

The Vice President discussed the Budget Review Committee processes that occur within the
Schools and Colleges. The need for broader understanding and consistency around this
process would be helpful.

Several members added to the discussion and one member offered to collect information
from each Collegial Assembly related to their Budget Review Committees and processes.
This information will be provided to the FSSC for report to University Administration.

It was noted that the Provost will attend an FSSC meeting on April 7th and this along with
other concerns will be raised at that time.

6. Old Business

One member reported that several years ago a committee was formed to consider
placement of entry level students into general education courses in math and writing.
The member is transitioning and will no longer be serving on the committee. The member
suggested that the FSSC should consider finding a replacement for this vacancy.

7. New Business

The FSSC discussed some of the materials provided for the MSC Accreditation meetings
scheduled for next week.

8. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded. A unanimous
vote followed, and the motion was carried. The President adjourned the meeting at
2:57PM.

Respectfully submitted: Lisa A Ferretti, Secretary, Faculty Senate

***Next meeting: Representative Faculty Senate, Monday, February 24, 11:45 pm
FSSC, Tuesday, March 10, 1:00 pm***