

Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 2019 – 1:00 PM
3B Conwell Hall
Meeting Minutes

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

Absent: Lisa Ferretti (Secy, SSW), Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSB), Paul LaFollette (Fac. Herald, CST), Austin Leong (KSoD)

1. Call to Order

The President called the meeting to order at 1:15 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes: October 8, 2019

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

3. President's Report:

Item 1: Welcome new member, Maia Cucchiara, College of Education

The President welcomed Maia Cucchiara from the College of Education. Members of the FSSC then introduced themselves and welcomed Cucchiara to the meeting.

Item 2: Faculty Service Awards/Nominating Committee update:

From the Provost's Office re Faculty Service Awards: four awards were approved for this year and following years there will be three awards annually.

A Nominating Committee must be selected and the President asked for volunteers. The President described the role of the Nominating Committee in developing guidelines for the process and nominating candidates by the first week of January for selection and announcement prior to the March Award Ceremony.

There are two distinct reward categories to be considered. There was a discussion about the distinctive criteria for each category. The Outstanding Service Award would recognize a commitment to long-term service to the University/Community and the Faculty Service Award would recognize meritorious service. The Nominating Committee would develop the basic criteria for each category.

The associated documents will be distributed through the Faculty listserv, Collegial Assemblies and other means and will include the formative document and the guidelines/criteria developed by the Nominating Committee. There will be up to 4 Outstanding Service Awards and up to 12 Faculty Service Awards. The President called for volunteers from the FSSC. The following people have volunteered: Sharyn, Jeff, Carmen, Kimmika to serve on the Nominating Committee.

There was a motion followed by a second to approve the membership of the Nominating Committee. A unanimous vote followed and all members were approved.

Item2: The President provided an update on the Faculty Herald website. The President spent some time investigating the webpage that hosts the Faculty Herald. Given the impending December 1, 2019 issue of the Faculty Herald the current site will be utilized although there is some question about the future of the posting location for the Faculty Herald.

Item 3: FSSC Survey Policy: The President opened a discussion related to the newly proposed policy. There was a discussion related to the context driving the need for a policy statement related to the sponsorship/co-sponsorship of surveys disseminated through the Faculty listserv. Past concerns include the need for the FSSC to review survey design and establish report dissemination channels and more generally to consider both process and content of surveys to faculty in sponsorship with the Faculty Senate. In addition, there has also been an administrative body developed at the University level to approve all surveys prior to distribution to faculty.

A question was raised about surveys that have been completed prior to initiating the new policy and how the new policy would or would not impact prior surveys. If this policy is passed in the FSSC, notice of the new policy will be provided to the RPPC and outreach will be made to the RPPC Chair. The President will reach out to provide the policy document and discuss the impact of the policy going forward.

Some clarifications and edits were made to the proposed policy document after discussion.

A motion was made to accept the document as amended. The motion was seconded. The policy was passed through unanimous vote.

4. Vice President's Report

Item 1: Updates:

The current chair of the Committee on Faculty Disabilities Concerns is retiring. A member of the Committee is interested in succeeding to the chair.

Faculty Committee coordination was discussed as there are members of many committees who would like to coordinate the sharing of information and activities. It was decided after discussion that this practice will stay informal.

We are continuing to recruit for many committees but several are now full.

Item 2: Approval of Committee Appointments:

The following candidates were presented to the FSSC for consideration. Amini was approved by a unanimous vote.

Candidate 1: Shohreh Amini, (CST) Research and Creative Awards Cmte.

Candidate 2: Kimberly McKay (SSW) FS Status of Women Cmte.

-the vote for McKay (SSW) was postponed as materials have not yet been received by the FSSC for review.

5. Old Business

None noted.

6. New Business

Item 1: Conversation regarding Intellectual Property (presented by the Vice President)

Discussion: There was a discussion about the ownership of the course materials created by faculty. The default position of the University is that it owns the IP created by faculty as employees of the University.

In the specific case noted, a faculty was hired to develop a course that is now seen as owned by the University. A question was raised as to faculty IP related to this situation. University policies related to IP issues may not be keeping pace with those of other academic institutions. The FSSC Committee on Inventions and Patents does consider this issue but has not moved into the less clear areas of faculty related IP.

Item 2: A question was raised about whether or not we should continue the practice of adding administrators having faculty rank. Some history of the list was described as were the related by-laws. The list will be updated accordingly.

Item 3: At the request of the CLA faculty representative, the FSSC revisited the discussion from the meeting October 8, 2019 and the nature or the term "Non-Tenure Track" (NTT) and its potentially pejorative connotation as well as complications for NTT titles across academic institutions. There was additional discussion about the issue including the difficulty with making changes to the title.

Item 4: At the request of the CLA faculty representative, the FSSC revisited the review of social media accounts of faculty (new or considered) in hiring and retention decisions. To date, these types of concerns have been reported to and managed by TAUP. There was a

question raised as to whether or not Temple is pursuing an official policy related to this practice. There are also budget implications for the University in this practice. A suggestion was made for the Faculty Senate to consider making a statement related to this practice. There was further discussion of how and when this process is being implemented whether formally or informally. The President was asked to consider investigating this further and provide additional information to the FSSC.

7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The President adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Lisa A Ferretti, Secretary, Faculty Senate (11/5/2019)

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 1:00 PM