

## Special Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 25, 2020 – 1:00 PM

### Meeting Minutes

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM

**2. President's Report:**

There are several items for discussion

**3. Editor of the Faculty Herald:**

The Executive Committee and the Faculty Herald Advisory Board reviewed and vetted applications for the position. Two candidates were selected for interview. The EC and FAHB eventually decided that Anna Peak, Associate Professor in the College of Liberal Arts was the best fit for the position. A motion was brought forth and seconded to approve Peak as the newly appointed editor of the Herald. The motion passed unanimously. Her two-year term as editor begins September 2020 through June 2022. The term is renewable with the approval of the FSSC. It is noted that there will no longer be an assistant editor for the Herald.

**4. Special Faculty Senate Webinar:**

There were 350 attendees during this virtual meeting. One hundred fifty-nine (159) remained in the session afterward for faculty discussion. The Administrative panelists agreed to provide answers to questions submitted during and after the session.

A suggestion: The Senate should have more frequent meetings to discuss Covid-19 issues. Porrata-Doria will speak to the president and provost about it.

**5. Covid-19 Cabinet:**

The senate president and vice president are now a part of the cabinet and attend the weekly meetings. The Cabinet includes members of Senior Administrative officials. The Senate officers have passed on questions and concerns from faculty to the Cabinet. They have been heard and plans implemented.

Articles in the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal claim that universities' choices are terrible; pandemic spread [if open] or financial ruin [if closed]. We have made a difference by being in the room.

**6. Faculty Senate Website:**

Strategic Marketing and Communications are currently working on the Faculty Senate’s new website. The new site will be more consistent with other university websites. It is now in the queue to be published live within the next 2-3 weeks. A link to the site for FSSC review:

<https://facultysenatesandbox.acquiadev.temple.edu/>

**7. Faculty Senate Budget:**

University Administration asked schools, colleges, etc. to take cuts to the budget for the next academic year. The Senate President sent the Faculty Senate budget proposal for 2020-21 at 10% less than previous budgets. It may be approved as submitted or close to it. It was suggested that we find out the timing for submitting budgets for Fiscal 2021-22 to be sure that the Senate is included in the process.

**8. Temple University Japan Faculty Senate:**

The Faculty Senate President of Temple University Japan met with the Senate EC to discuss how the Faculty Senate works. Now TUJ faculty would like to join the Temple University Faculty Senate. EC had two calls with TUJ FSSC. They voted by 85% majority to join TUFSS. Administration has no issues with this. They will have representative senators and an FSSC representative. They are excited to have more contact with American colleagues. The FSSC will consider holding one meeting later in the day to accommodate TUJ and the time difference – perhaps and 7:00 PM virtual meeting for U.S.

A question was posed about other campuses such as Rome, Harrisburg and Podiatric Medicine. Will check the Faculty Senate Constitution. It may require an amendment for the numbers. Or, it may already be included in our numbers. TUJ has 50 faculty. The majority are local hires.

*Motion-KWW: All TUJ faculty to join the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. Motion seconded. Point of order – must review and make changes to Constitution and Bylaws accordingly. Amendment to the motion: pending review of the Senate Constitution and By-Laws. Motion passed unanimously to approve pending the review of Constitution/bylaws.*

Another issue that has recently arisen during TAUP conversations: The issue of Adjuncts and the Faculty Senate.

**9. Intellectual Property: Recorded Zoom meeting and ownership**

KWW: Looked at 13 schools/colleges for their policies on the issue. Liked UPenn policy on Intellectual Property and shared it along with the other information with the Provost. She and University Counsel are trying to find answers that work for both the University and faculty.

**10. Racism on Campus:**

Incidents of racism on campus. Issues that came up during the spring and summer. Remarks by an adjunct and freshman student on social media. Also emails from faculty questioning why the Faculty Senate has not responded to the issues. The Faculty Senate Steering Committee will draft a response to the issue. Will have a statement drafted for review by the September 8<sup>th</sup> FSSC meeting.

**11. College of Education and Human Development:**

There are ongoing issues between the faculty and the dean in the college. The faculty sent an open letter to the dean regarding faculty governance. There was some discussion among FSSC about the issues that have arisen within the college. There was also a question of whatever happened with the University Ombudsperson who would work INDEPENDENTLY of administration? And, should this be in an issue of the Faculty Herald? The Executive Committee will draft a statement regarding this for review at the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Will also bring it to the Provost before her visit with the FSSC on 9/8/2020 for discussion.

**12. Old Business:**

None

**13. New Business**

None

**14. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 pm

Submitted by,

*Cheryl R. Mack*

Administrative Coordinator