

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE
 Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 12/1/20

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:33 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Rafael Porrata-Doria (Pres., Law), Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon (V. Pres., TFMA), Sue Dickey (CPH), Rob Fauber (CLA), Anna Peak (Fac. Herald, CST), Rick Ridall (STHM), Teresa Gill Cirillo (FSB), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD), Shohreh Amini (CST), Quaiser Abdullah (COE), Maia Cucchiara (COE), Sharyn O'Mara (ART), Mark Rahdert (Law), Carmen Sapienza (LKSM), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Vallorie Peridier (CST), Cheryl Mack (Coord.)

Absent: Lisa Ferretti (Secretary, SSW/CPH);

Guest: (1:00 p.m.) Temple University President, Dr. Richard Englert

Topic	Discussion	Action
1. Call to order	<p>The meeting was called to order by Senate Vice-President, Kimmika Williams Witherspoon, pending arrival of Senate President, Rafael Porrata-Doria Please see Dr. Williams-Witherspoon's report in section 3.</p> <p>Motion to approve the FSSC Minutes of 9/22/20 & 11/10/20.</p>	<p>Called to order at 1:02 p.m. upon arrival of a quorum on Zoom.</p> <p>Seconded & approved as read.</p>
2. Report of President R. Porrata-Doria	<p>My report will be somewhat limited in lieu of my arrival (1:25 p.m.) with a couple of follow up items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After our recent (FSSC) conversation with the RPPC committee: I received an email from Slava about getting the RPPC's survey together for this year. RPD suggested to him that there be no survey for this year, BUT RPD would like to talk to the Provost first about objectivity. This topic is on our list to take to the Provost. 2. The new issue of <i>The Faculty Herald</i> for the fall is ready. There's been an issue for getting it on the website. <p>KWW: we talked about this. CM thought she was waiting for your approval. We will get it up & distributed to the listserv promptly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. As you may know, Dr. Valerie Harrison, our invited guest, is unable to come today. We will hopefully be able to schedule her for the 1st FSSC next year on January 19th. Important. 4. The Provost has requested to speak to the University Faculty Senate body on December 8th. That will be 3 guests for the UFS. This meeting is also to include Cindy Leavitt (Vice-President Information Technology Services & Chief Information Officer (CIO), Information Technology Services: Administration and & Dan Berman, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies (VPUS) & along with Provost Epps for the 12/8/20 meeting. 5. Are there any questions in terms of follow up for the various things we've been talking about? 	

	<p>KWW: I've asked Mark Rahdert about the proposed changes to the Faculty Senate constitution regarding the inclusion of adjunct faculty. We will push that to the new year after you two talk about the things that he's done so far.</p> <p>6. Arrival of President Englert in the Zoom room</p>	
<p>3. Report of Vice President, Dr. Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon</p>	<p>1. Nobody has yet been found to serve on the assessment committee. We talk about shared governance & we don't really want to imply that we're not invested. Would any of you consider taking on this committee? Don't answer now but think about it & promote it within your collegial assemblies.</p> <p>SOM: What is the time commitment?</p> <p>Answer: The committee meets during the months of October, November, December & January.</p> <p>2. Aside from our current vacancies, we've done pretty well this semester in getting our Senate committees populated.</p> <p>3. The Faculty Senate Service Award announcements are out. Please mention this to your Collegial Assemblies. Nominate someone else or yourself. There is a misconception that nominations must come from colleges, but this is inaccurate. Anybody can nominate. Please make that clear. A letter of nomination must be sent to the Faculty Senate by February 1, 2021. This, along with the criteria for the award are in the announcement that went out. Some schools believe that they can submit only one nominee; however, this is also not true.</p> <p>4. With regard to Diversity and Inclusion training for the Presidential Search committee, a video was prepared for training for the Board of Trustees (BOT) search committee. Participation in watching this is both voluntary & suggested. The concern was heard. There is no way to know how many took the training.</p> <p>5. The Covid-19 cabinet meeting is this Friday. I will inquire about ambiguities from what HR sent out about 'essential' workers. The Mayor of Philadelphia & the Health Commissioner suggested that everyone work from home if possible.</p> <p>VP: I followed up with HR that If you've gotten permission then you don't need HR's permission to work remotely (next semester). I don't need their ok if it's ok with your dean. They implied that we don't need their ok.</p> <p>KWW: The same thing happened in my school. When I asked at the last Covid-19 Cabinet meeting what above the percentage of physical class meetings were proposed for spring 2021, (200 in person/with wanting to do 20% more before the case numbers recently began to climb). The Thanksgiving boost in numbers is to be followed carefully before any final decisions are made.</p>	

	<p>6. The new <i>Faculty Herald</i> is out on the website & through Senate2Temple email distribution.</p> <p>7. TGC: According to Cheryl, it's not yet on the Faculty Senate website. Cheryl is trying to rectify the situation. Are we ready to publish?</p> <p>Anna Peak, Editor: I sent out the pdf on 11/23/20. I am raring to go with social media but can't until it's on the website.</p> <p>Cheryl: I asked the EC to review; there must have been a misunderstanding.</p> <p>Anna: I drafted a listserv announcement in September. I will review & send it to you. Once you send it to me, I will send it out after RPD approves.</p> <p>KWW: Once it's ready, it's supposed to go out to the listserv in order to train people to look at & visit the website.</p> <p>SOM: I can't find that email. Was it sent to the Executive Committee & the <i>Faculty Herald</i> advisory committee?</p> <p>KWW: Please send it to the FSSC so that everyone can be invested in it.</p> <p>Quaiser: Once the EC approves, the standard practice that the FSSC gets it. Hopefully, it will come by end of this meeting.</p> <p>8. Any Q's or Concerns?</p> <p>9. MR: How might we review the Senate Constitution & Bylaws to add adjuncts? I've drafted it, & it will get out before the term ends. Then, it will be sent out by RPD when he's ready. The document is premature for deliberation by a committee. Please put it on agenda for a general discussion so that we can articulate issues that I might not have thought of.</p> <p>KWW: There needs to be a timeline.</p> <p>10. KWW: Briefly, are there any real concerns that you have for Cindy Leavitt & Dan Berman? I'm on Values & Culture component, so please let me know about any issues.</p> <p>SBD: Brought up some concerns about Canvas.</p>	
<p>Guest: (1:00 p.m.): Dr. Dick Englert, Temple University President</p>	<p>Pres. RPD greeted the President: Welcome to the meeting. Intros all around. Our purpose for this meeting is to meet with you on a regular basis to exchange information & respond to questions relating to issues that affect all of us to the University administration.</p> <p>Pres. Englert: Hi Everybody. Thank-you for everything that you do. First, I will provide updates; then I will take questions. From here on the Main Campus, this is as quiet as it ever gets! I wish I could visit with all of you in person. I want to start by thanking everybody. For pivoting & in the fall, pivoting again. The resilience of our faculty is amazing. I want to thank the FSSC for your leadership.</p>	

I've always had a special love for you, especially the FSSC. Thank-you for all you do. I have a special shout out for RPD & KWW... what you do every week on the Covid cabinet... We have to have RPD & KWW on the Covid-Cabinet! They've truly made a difference on how we think about things. Thank you for that town hall that you've posted for Provost Epps & me... that was really special & a great opportunity.

Quick update: Review of the fall; recent events. Spring: Planning for the spring semester is like trying to read a crystal ball. Things keep changing even as we speak. I thought that this fall was extraordinary on many counts. I was very impressed with how our faculty were quoted in various types of the media, live & in print about Covid-19. In Education, Public Health & the Hospitals. Commentary on elections. Our faculty are appearing often. The news would turn to our people. Commentary on combatting racism. The research & the clinical prominence that our faculty have in combatting Covid-19. Our hospital was literally ground zero for Covid-19. Dr. Jerry Kreiner, the Director of the Temple University Lung Center for respiratory illnesses is a national & international figure. He's been consulting with China & all have stood tall, along with so many others. Our faculty has been recognized. Dr. Amy Goldberg, Head of Surgery, received 'The Philadelphia Award.' She brought back a victim of gun violence back to life on the operating table. He was there handing the award to Amy on that zoom. This was just one example of the kinds of emergencies & gun violence that we see at TU. She's a leader. *The Huffington Post* did a great article on her & gun violence in April 2017. In so many ways, our faculty stood tall in spite of so many challenges. Innovation. Classroom. It's been stellar. I'm thanking all faculty for all that they do.

There are several things for keeping an eye on: Fall, Enrollment, our life blood, took a dip without a doubt. Some of it was expected. Graduating classes are so much larger now with Fly-in-4. This is a good effect on enrollment. Covid also affected it. Before Covid, we had record breaking admissions numbers. Some students stopped out. Some internationals couldn't come into the country because of their visa. Some went to our affiliates abroad. Some have dropped out & don't know whether they'll come back. This is a great tragedy. We don't want to lose a generation of students; especially 1st generation college. That affects their lives. We need to keep an eye on enrollments, especially for the spring & next fall. Up to now, we've been able to attract students better than other universities.

OTHER fall stuff: Katie Fish, a graphic & interactive design student, won the competition for the I VOTED sticker for Philly. Have you seen it?

Liacouras Center: During the Spring, it was converted to become a Covid hospital. In the Fall: It served as a satellite election office, providing all voter services. Temple U. is standing proud.

Getting ready for Thanksgiving: Covid testing was available to all students getting ready to go home. We tested 4500 with low + rates, but still, there were some. There were opportunities to quarantine or isolate here or tell their families that they're + & coming home. Now with Thanksgiving break over, only essential areas of the university are functioning in person. Usually, these are

for clinical responsibilities & courses. Most classes are done with in-person meetings & online for remainder of the semester.

In the news: Our sports programs are very affected. Football: fewer games; last game cancelled. Basket-ball team undergoes daily testing. Had to cancel a tournament over the weekend because of the Covid+ rates. We're being very careful. Fall sports: Almost all were put off to spring by NCAA. (Field Hockey.) This is very challenging for student athletes. The teams are sharing fields; practice facilities. Interesting.

Other adaptations: Concerts. The MOSAIC concert, I thought was great! By Zoom! A recent album came out & is on the Temple YouTube channel: "The Covid Sessions: A Social Call" from Boyer. Recitals and other concerts appear on the YouTube channel.

These are the ways in which everyone's adapted... can't say I know how they've kept up.

Looking to spring: We're keeping an eye on enrollments. They're way down from last year to this: way down, but we started priority registration very late. We will look at how they're enrolling; What they're choosing in terms of living on campus. A lot of demand will be coming forward for students living on campus. We will have to be adaptable. First & foremost: those with educational & social implications. Budget implications. Ken Kaiser doesn't have a picture yet on how things are going.

We will be offering Covid-19 testing 2 times per week for students taking in person classes & faculty offering in person classes. One of the labs in LKSOM will increase our capacity for student testing so that we can do them ourselves rather than send out to an outside lab. Cheaper than sending out with a faster turn-around time rather than sending the test kits out to Massachusetts. We're buying some additional, capital equipment. Once Covid dissipates, the same equipment can be used for DNA research. More about this in spring.

Spring calendar is altered. There will be no spring break; later start. Commencement: still up in the air. July? Stay tuned. I'll stop there. So many exciting things... very impressed with everything everybody does. Any questions?

RR: What about those on campus who are not wearing masks?

Pres. Englert: Those who are walking wear masks!

RR: With technology, we probably should be wearing masks online! What's your last priority before you walk out of Sullivan for the last time (as President of Temple U)?

Pres. Englert: Getting us through this crisis & setting a good table for the incoming president. Not straying from our core mission. Our mission is sacrosanct in my mind. Transitions: We must preserve our focus on core values. Education, research & service (including clinical in our hospital & education in our schools). What we do makes a difference. Along with Philadelphia Community College, if we didn't exist, this city would be a disaster. That's what our mission is! We need to just continue to focus on our mission. With respect to Covid-19, to our transition to another president... We must preserve our core mission. Service to the many whom we

serve. Anyone else?

JD Gallagher on HSC: I've been at TU for 16 years. Never as proud to be at TU as I have been this past year. Especially of Dr. Jerry Kreiner. I do want to ask: Is the University working on vaccination policies, e.g. for students, for the incoming academic year?

Pres. Englert: Because of what you just said, that will be one of our topics on the Covid Cabinet on Friday because the FSSC raised it. (KWW & RPD serve on the Covid Cabinet.) We'll have that conversation as well. I share your love of our health system & what they've done. It's truly God's work. Two of our Fox Chase Cancer Center cancer surgeons volunteered to come work at the Liacouras Center hospital. So many people in so many ways care. We can all be so proud of the ways in which so many people have stepped forward without knowing what the effects might be on them. Some of our residences have been used for docs & others to spend the night. We made them available.

SOM: This is a tough question, and maybe an opportunity to make a change. This is a confidential meeting. My question is about diversity & inclusivity: All feel that it is vital to becoming the institution to which we aspire. What 'training' for that diversity & inclusivity can be used to set TU's bar at the highest level???? Everyone has best intentions but most of us have so much work to do in these areas, this is a really important thing that you could do for TU at this time.

Pres Englert: Our Board of Trustees (BOT) is really great & aggressively concerned. I appreciate that this is in confidence. I will convey this forward in confidence.

There are so many challenges here. What is the sweet spot between academic freedom, the 1st amendment & things that border on hate speech? I have always been a big proponent of academic freedom. Something that one person perceives as hateful does not bother others. (An example would have been Professor Mark Lamont Hill's remarks... Remember? I defended him, but some took his remarks as hateful.) That's a challenge & one that we will all have to continue talking about.

MC: I have an educator-to-educator question. Biden's platform is really good from a K-12 perspective, but I don't have much sense about his higher ed positions, especially for his thoughts about universities like Temple.

Pres. Englert: We hosted Candidate Biden here at the TU Performing Arts Center (TUPAC). Provost Epps & I sat down with him for 210 minutes. He talked about the importance of people looking for careers in public service. We've said that anything that we can do for him as he makes his transition, we're there for him! He has a special fondness for the Philly area. The Biden campaign did want to have a rally here on Geasey field, but it was a vehicle rally & we couldn't really do that to our field. When he was invited, his agent came & there was a substantial fee. We appealed to him as a public University & he waived the fee. More broadly, there are people who I think will continue to support universities like Temple.

Linda Darlingham, a TU grad, is one of the most important

Educational Policy people in the country. She's President of the State Board of Education for California. She sits on Biden's transition team.

Another supporter: The Superintendent of Public Instruction in California is a TU grad: Tony Thurman. I'd love to bring him here as a speaker. He was elected state-wide; not appointed by the governor. He was student body president when he was here.

With those kinds of people, I think that Higher Ed will be a priority for the upcoming administration, with more of a public higher ed priority than a for profit one. We'll have to see how this goes. We have good connections in D.C. Hopefully some really good ones.

Before end of next semester, with all newly elected officials, we may have a clearer picture. I'm non-partisan & work with everyone. We need to solidify our relationship with elected public servants & will do well in Harrisburg too because some of the leadership there from both sides of aisle are very TU friendly.

KWW: It worries me that certain parties called all of the military to be back in D.C. by January.

Pres. Englert: Bernie Watson was Linda Darlingham's professor in circa 1976 when I first came to TU. He did things. He's now in D.C. I still keep in touch. He was her mentor.

KWW: I would hope that as we move toward this new period that we keep in mind that urban ed is no longer part of our mission, and that we need to revisit that. Also, now that I'm on the strategic planning committee, TU is really expensive. It's the 5th most expensive public institution. SAT scores will look different moving into the future. Scholarships are only at ~20%. How will we keep our diverse student body if it's so expensive?

Pres. Englert: Two of our years that I've been back as President, we've held tuition flat. Sticker price still means a lot to 1st generation kids. Compared to U. of Pittsburgh & Penn State University, we look really good. Compared to private institutions: we look really good. Other publics in other states around the US don't look so good. We must continue to make sure that scholarships are priorities. Fly-in-4 is very important as well. Relationships with Community Colleges has to be part of the strategy. If you remember our Rhodes Scholar, Hazim Hardiman, from 2019, his first CCP instructor was a person getting a doctorate here at TU. Hazim's still in the UK. Another side: IF we lower tuition, we either get help from the Commonwealth, the Feds or privates, or we will have to make more cuts. All things considered; we do an extraordinary job to find the sweet spot. It's still too much for some families. Years ago, I went to the PA. Senate & House appropriations committees. Before I went, I asked the FSSC what you thought I should talk to them about. You told me to focus on affordability. We can't lose sight of that. It's so important that we keep our state-relatedness & our affordability. If we lost this & took up our tuition, we would still be less than private universities.

JS: Thank you for commenting on the importance of scholarships. It's our lifeblood in Music. For the really talented students, scholarships are the only way that we can bring them to TU.

	<p>Pres. Englert: I'm wondering if the dog has questions. (Someone's dog walked by on the Zoom. :)</p> <p>Carmen? No just scratching my ear.</p> <p>Pres. Englert: Thanks, everybody. Please stay safe & I'll come back whenever you want me. This is the fun part of my job.</p>	
Old Business	<p>MC thanked V.P. KWW for bringing up the topic of whether or not the Board of Trustees should also take the same Diversity & Inclusion training that all faculty & other TU employees must take.</p> <p>KWW: They're going to have to answer some questions. I have one: Is this our last meeting before the holidays?</p> <p>RPD: Requested, 'Am I hearing a consensus on cancelling the 12/15/20 meeting? This is our traditional holiday luncheon.' The UFS meets next week on 12/8/20.</p>	12/15/20 meeting of the FSSC is cancelled pending any emergency considerations.
New Business	None.	
Adjournment	President RPD: Thanks, everybody! We are adjourned.	Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.
Respectfully submitted in behalf of current Faculty Senate Secretary, Lisa Ferretti, <i>Sue Dickey</i> Sue Dickey, PhD, RN, Associate Professor & Former Faculty Senate Secretary, 2016-18, Spring, 2019		

Next meeting: Next FSSC: January 19, 2021 via ZOOM. Dates may change now that the U. calendar has changed.
University Faculty Senate: 1-25-21 at 1:45 p.m. via ZOOM.

SBD/sbd 12-1-20; updated: 1-5-21