

Representative Faculty Senate Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2024 – 1:45 PM
Hybrid Meeting
In-person: Charles Library Event Center, Room 100
[Zoom recording](#)

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Sixty-four (64) representatives, faculty and guest in virtual and in-person attendance.

Guest: Matt Wilson, Dean of Temple University Japan

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:51 p.m.

2. Approval of RFS minutes of March 21, 2024

The minutes from the March 21, 2024, meeting were approved unanimously.

3. President's Report: Shohreh Amini

a. Today's speaker is Matt Wilson, Dean of TUJ. He will join the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

b. Enrollment is up at Temple, but there are some special circumstances (e.g., U Arts) which mean we must still work to improve.

c. President-elect John Fry has been actively engaged in meetings at Temple in September. He will be unavailable in October. We are inviting him to attend the December 12, 2024, University Senate meeting.

d. There was a portrait unveiling for late Temple President JoAnne Epps.

e. The new Dean of the Graduate School, Renee Tobin will visit the FSSC on October 1. We will discuss concerns about professional development for graduate students and the need for a database to track their academic progress.

f. On October 15, the FSSC will meet with the Deans of Tyler and Boyer about the impact of U Arts students joining Temple. Mention of a potential purchase of a Center City building owned by U Arts since the lease on TUCC will expire in two years.

g. The next Faculty Senate Meeting on October 23, 2024 [Tuttleman Lecture 105] will have as guests Board of Trustees Chairman Mitch Morgan and Trustee Bret Perkins.

h. The Board of Trustees is now including a faculty member for the full meeting of their trustee executive committee. We are working on this for all other Board committees.

i. The November 19, 2024, Faculty Senate Meeting (entirely online, 6:00 p.m.) will be on The Research Office. Vice President for Research Josh Gladden will attend.

j. The Faculty Senate Meeting on January 28, 2025, will have faculty presentations on college football's health and economic outcomes.

k. Update: Gen Ed Review hosted a successful summer symposium and task force review.

l. Future discussions planned on tenure line faculty development through mentorship, and more pre-tenure faculty meetings with the Provost's office.

4. Vice President's Report: Mike Bognanno

a. Reviewed Faculty Senate Committee vacancies with the total number of each committee's members indicated. Discussed the possibility of reducing committee sizes of some committees.

b. At Zoom participants' request, a full list of vacancies to be circulated by email.

5. Guest: Matt Wilson, Dean TUJ (2:45 pm)

Dean Wilson of Temple University Japan reported that despite Japan's demographic decline, the university has grown and is committed to sending revenue back to the main campus. He shared updates about new graduate programs, a second location in Kyoto opening in January 2025, and partnerships with various universities in Japan.

TUJ expanding program offerings in the sciences including professional science master's programs, neuroscience faculty coordinating with Dean Wilson on potential courses and internships in Japan and exploring partnerships with pharmaceutical companies in Japan for student internships.

TUJ wants faculty members from Main Campus to consider teaching opportunities at Temple University Japan (TUJ) in general education courses, especially science-related ones. They are also interested in faculty-led study abroad programs in Kyoto.

6. Old Business

President asked Senate Secretary for Sustainability update. Provost's visit with FSSC revealed that little progress was made to initiate cross-campus dialog on important issues like sustainability. This is part of our Strategic Plan.

Discussion about a proposal for a Gen Ed category on sustainability. Faculty discussed programs by the CAT to help faculty integrate climate change and/or sustainability into their teaching.

7. New Business

Faculty Senate to discuss the role of language requirements in study abroad programs. Concern about the lack of a requirement for students to take Japanese classes before studying abroad in Japan. Temple University offers a large number of Japanese language courses but does not require students to take them before studying abroad.

8. Adjournment at 3:19 p.m.

The Next Meeting: Representative Faculty Senate, Wednesday, October 23, 2024 – 1:45 PM.
Guests: Mitch Morgan, Chair, Board of Trustees, and Brett Perkins, Trustee. Tuttleman 105.

Respectfully submitted by,

Robin Kolodny
Faculty Senate Secretary