

Representative Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday, September 14, 2021– 1:45-3:15 PM
Minutes

Attendance:

Sixty-one (61) representative and faculty senators in virtual attendance

Guests: Mark Denys, Student & Employee Health Services; Adam Brunner, Nicole Westrick, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute; Tiffenia Archie, IDEAL

1. Call to Order

President Williams-Witherspoon called to order at 1:46 PM. The President welcomed the Executive Committee members, Vice President Lisa Ferretti, and Secretary Ashley Stewart.

2. First Order of Business: Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2021

President Williams-Witherspoon distributed the minutes from March 18, 2021, meeting before the September 14 meeting. The President called for any addition, changes, or comments. There were two nay votes. A member made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed. The motion was seconded, and after a vote, the motion was carried. The minutes were accepted for the record.

3. Guest: Mark Denys, Director of Student Health Services, Temple University

The President of the Faculty Senate introduced the Director of Student Health Services to update COVID-related information.

Updates and Information:

- Vaccine information has been added to the COVID-count dashboard.
- COVID Migration Plan
- Masks required indoors for everyone,
- COVID testing is required for all unvaccinated students, faculty, and staff,
- Vaccine required for all students, faculty, and staff,
- COVID vaccine clinics,
- Contact tracing unit and COVID liaisons for different schools and colleges.
- Temple is offering symptomatic and asymptomatic testing.
- Groups at higher risk: athletics, housing, Greek organizations have high rates of vaccination.
- Reminder and elaboration of the October 15 deadline for either documentation of vaccine information or an approved exemption and documented testing routine.

Questions:

- What will happen when folks who are not in compliance come on campus?

The goal is to communicate and engage with those students prior to the deadline to ensure that they have the information they need and ensure that they have all the information shared about the requirements.

-If a colleague is teaching exclusively online, is vaccination documentation required
Yes, there is a waiver for fully remote exemptions. They will need to provide information on their vaccination status.

-What is the cumulative number of cases of COVID since the start of the semester.
There is a link provided to the COVID.

If a student tests positive, is the instructor notified?
-The classroom isn't always a high-risk environment due to the mask mandate. Not always; it depends on the case.

Are we checking for false cards?
-Yes, there is CDC guidance on how to assess for false cards.

Do individuals only have to make a COVID testing appointment to regain access to the buildings?
-No, they must also keep that testing appointment.

4. Guest: Tiffenia Archie, Assistant Vice President of Institutional Diversity, Equity, Advocacy, and Leadership, Temple University

The President of the Faculty Senate introduced the Assistant Vice President of Institutional Diversity, Equity, Advocacy, and Leadership [IDEAL].

- IDEAL provides extensive training for faculty, staff, and students.
- Social justice education
- Trainings and workshops
- Student engagement
- Advocacy techniques
- Business procurement and supplier diversity
- LGBTQ+ resources and services
- Large scale cultural programming and affinity spaces
- Global experiential learning

Review of 2021-22 Priorities, including to enhance training and online offerings, create more synergy around campus-wide DEI efforts, enhance faculty recruitment and retention, and explore outside funding.

There is a DEI module as part of the mandatory onboarding materials for students. Hopeful to provide opportunities for faculty as well.
There is training for search committees.

Questions:

Following the protests of 2020, how can IDEAL help faculty with statements to address social issues?
-Providing guidance and support, as an example, land-acknowledgments and looking for ways to engage with communities and be intentional about non—performative initiatives.

If folks are experiencing retention issues, can they contact your office?
-Yes, they can contact the office for support.

Is there specific leadership training?

-Yes, there is standard training for leaders. There was also training occurring over the summer with the C-Suite.

How to access training options?

-Bridge in the TUPortal, has its offerings.

Is there training for graduate admissions?

-Yes, they can specify the training to meet specific needs.

5. Guest: Nicole Westrick, Associate Vice Provost for University College, and Adam Brunner, Director of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Temple University

The President of the Faculty Senate introduced Nicole Westrick and Adam Brunner to talk about life-long learning programs.

-The Department is responsible for the Senior Scholars Program, a 50+ Lifelong Learning Program, which allows Temple alumni and friends of the University to sit in and audit a credit course. Participants pay a small fee for the classrooms when approved. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) welcomes faculty to volunteer to teach after retirement.

-In-person, the OLLI program had 1700 students. For the first time in 10 years, they have had the opportunity to market, given decreases in numbers directly connected to COVID.

-All instructors are volunteers for the OLLI program, and there are other options for folks who retired and want to teach (as a volunteer or for compensation).

-Research and teaching opportunities, especially around aging research, and intergenerational studies.

Questions:

Do OLLI students have access to the Temple Library System?

-Yes, and there is a community access process through the library

6. President's Report: Kimmika Williams-Witherspoon

Item 1: EPPC final report update: the academic dishonesty policy has been updated, giving more accountability to hate speech.

Item 2: An update that there was an approval of a BA in general studies.

Item 3: Creation on the adjunct constituents committee. Email senate2@temple.edu or to VP Lisa Ferretti to serve in the inaugural adjunct constituents committee.

Item 4: Reminder of the October 15 deadline to upload vaccination documentation. Collegial Assembly is providing data on student vaccination rates.

Item 5: Representative Senator's service is being recognized, and there is a package provided in the email before the meeting that gives context.

Item 6: Honoring the life of Latanya Jenkins, co-sponsored by the Faculty of Color Committee, ACCORD, IDEAL, and the Temple Libraries, a memorial service will be held on Thursday, September 30.

Item 7: Announced that we got a call from the President's Chief of Staff that CATA would nominate faculty members to serve on the athletic director search, and one of our members of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee will serve on the search committee.

5. Vice President's Report: Lisa Ferretti

Volunteers for committee and review of vacancies:

Faculty Herald Advisory Board is working on revising the board. For more information, please reach out to Lisa.

Request for members to review the document sent out about vacancies and consider current or future opportunities to serve on committees.

6. Old Business

None noted.

7. New Business

Nothing further.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 PM.

Next Meeting: Representative Faculty Senate, October 11, 2021 – 1:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Stewart, Faculty Senate Secretary