

Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 20, 2024 – 1:00 pm
Conference Room 3B, Conwell Hall

Meeting Minutes

Present: Shohreh Amini (President, CST), Mike Bognanno (Vice President, CLA), Rick Ridall (Secretary), STHM), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-President, Law), Quaiser Abdullah (KMC), Fauzia Ahmad (COE), Cheri Carter (SSW), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Dale Haines (LKSM), Robin Kolodny (CLA), Di Liu (CEHD), Stan McDonald (Fac. Herald), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Michael Schirmer (FSBM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD) Ryan Tierney (CPH),

Absent: Nicholas Bizzaro (KSoD) AE, Sharyn O'Mara (TYL)

Excused: Barry McCarthy (Law), Shinya Watanabe (TUJ)

1. Call to Order: Shohreh Amini: 1:02pm
2. Guests: Steven Bell, Assoc. Univ. Librarian: Textbook affordability initiatives & Molly Kennelly, TSG
 - a. Introduction of guests and FSSC
 - b. Textbook affordability Project – PowerPoint presentation (PowerPoint available via Cheryl Mack).
 - c. Highlights - Encourage faculty and students to provide zero cost materials for courses; Steven Bell co-chairs the university task force; has worked for a number of years in this area; working hard to have students understand the cost of textbooks and the materials they need; “zero cost course identification”; helps students understand where there are courses in their major that do not require a cost; Temple students are concerned, more than other universities, about the cost of textbooks (new or used); Students try to find free “pirated versions” on the internet; only 2% of Temple students do not attempt to lower text book cost, many go through a course without buying books; 63% of students make a priority of the cost of course materials when considering courses; there are many strategies to adopt, i.e. “textbook affordability project” – Library affords grants from \$500 - \$1500 to help eliminate the cost of books (many good examples provided); February 26th - April 4th will start the most recent “textbook affordability

project” proposal period (all information and instructions will be sent to Cheryl for distribution to the FSSC); currently not accepting proposals for new books; Temple University bookstore gives Temple Library all the books that professors have adopted; try to then get them in eBook version at no cost; this allows students who are good with the digital version greater savings; multi or single version licenses are available to use; new course initiatives are coming soon; everything being done is to help students financially; more information coming out for a new initiative “course reserve” - will roll out in June '24 in time for the summer sessions; Looking at ways to use B&N’s AIP system, to determine what students have access to, what costs are, and what else is available (up the professor to let them know what the options are).

Question: Who populates the material into AIP?

Answer: The faculty member populates, it updates into the B&N system and then AIP; AIP does not allow much customization, there are limitations, will look into this more and follow up

Comment (Steven): Foundation course and introduction course with open stacks that comes with a full entre of information, slides, assignments, quizzes, etc. – can convert to “open stacks” to save money (Bucks county community college, example used and given); emphasizing this, sharing information to faculty members; open education week is next week, there will be a lot of information provided in this area (example of workshops provided); next Thursday is the Library’s “waffle and coffee” open house, please come if you can.

d. Question: Adjuncts involvement?

Response: Yes, they are and can be involved, not sure how much they are using.

Question: How closely are you working with Justin Kidd/Gen Ed?

Response: Library Dean working with Justin and the Provost

Question: Barnes and Noble data, how do you get that or student activity?

Response: We can run surveys to find that out

Comment: Mike Bognanno provided good examples of how he bought books that he got back at the end of the semester.

Question: What is the average cost of a textbook?

Response: The average cost is around \$100; price of textbooks is not coming down

*Comments from Molly reiterating content; Steven conclusion & thank you.

3. Approval of Minutes: February 6, 2024: Approved

4. President's Report: Shohreh Amini

- a. Meet & Greet for Adjuncts "coffee & cookies" event to bring everyone together (TBD)
- b. President's search: Interviewed 4 candidates last week; this afternoon will be the debriefing (3:30pm); everyone will need to keep their thoughts to themselves until today; survey filled out after each candidate by the search committee then submitted to the search firm.

*Criteria being focused on for ideal candidate – academic experience, taught undergrad, wide array of experience, a passion for teaching.

5. Vice President's Report: Mike Bognanno

*Thank you, Cheryl Mack, for all your work on this and creating document for us all to understand where there are expiring terms (see attached document for expiring terms of each): All candidates have been unanimously approved.

- a. Committee Candidates: Carmelo Galati (CLA), Cmte. for International Programs: Approved
- b. Katie Gerst (FSBM), Cmte. for International Programs (2nd term): Approved
- c. Karl Neubert (TUJ), Cmte. for International Programs (2nd term): Approved
- d. Brad Pearson (CPH, Adj.) Cmte Adjunct Constituency Concerns: Approved
- e. Lisa Ferretti (SSW) Assessment of Instruction Cmte: Approved
- f. Michael Schirmer (FSBM) Assessment of Instruction Cmte: Approved
- g. Judith Garriga-Marti (CST) Cmte. Adjunct Constituent Concerns: Approved

h. Reactivation of the LGBTQ issues Cmte -

Caramelo Galati request: Approved

i. Carmelo Galati (CLA), LGBTQ Issues Cmte: Approved

*Senate committees' vacancy list (see FSSC Shared Folder 2024)

6. Old Business:

New format Faculty Senate meeting on Monday 2/26, please promote to all

7. New Business:

a. Shohreh Amini: Thank you, Robin, for all your work on the Collegial

Assembly Data – 13 of the 17 of us are elected into this position; 12 out 17

know we have a 3 year term; limited on number of terms we can serve;

how do you report to faculty – 8 CA, 5 other committees, 3 that there is not

means, 1 does a report; Collegial assembly bylaws 13 of us know that it is

publicly available on the website (post the results as part of the minutes);

We have a variety of different collegial assembly set ups, and ways of

communicating, what do you want to do to move forward;

Rafael Porrata-Doria – write a document highlighting some of the issues

about this; Jason Gallagher suggested having a document providing what a

new member of the FSSC should be doing in their new role (a variety of

examples given); more to follow.

8. Adjournment: 2:57pm

Next Meetings:

Representative Faculty Senate – Forum: Monday, February 26,2024, 1:45 pm
IDEAL, Conference Room D-100

FSSC: Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 1:00 pm, 3B Conwell Hall