

Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 4, 2025 – 1:00 pm
Conference Room 3B, Conwell Hall

Minutes

Present: Shohreh Amini (President, CST), Mike Bognanno (Vice President, CLA), Robin Kolodny (Secretary), Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-President, Law), Fauzia Ahmad (COE), Renee Fennell (KSoD)-Zoom, Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Dale Haines (LKSM), Di Liu (CEHD), Lu Lu (STHM), Barry McCarthy (Law), Fac. Herald), Sabrina Minhas (TSPM), Jason Norris (TFMA), Sharyn O'Mara (TYL), Deborah Racano (KMC), Michael Schirmer (FSB), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD) Ryan Tierney (CPH)

Absent: Lisa Ferretti (SSW), Stan McDonald (CLA,

Absent Excused: Ron Carr (TUJ)

Admin: Cheryl Mack

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at 1:02 PM

2. Guest: University President John Fry (1:00 pm)

President Fry offered a 'sneak peek' of the message he would release to the university community tomorrow which included:

1. RCM Review Committee – Will be co-chaired by Chip Hunter, Dean of Fox and Jaison Kurichi from the university's budget office.
2. Public Safety Staffing Study about to commence
3. Review of Institutional Advancement – led by an outside consultant who has prior Temple ties (Checchi).
4. Elevate and make more cohesive our community engagement and outreach – Val Harrison will lead this initiative.
5. Terra Hall possession is commencing – will replace 1515 Market Street ~280,000 square feet – double the size of current building. Cost savings to the university and new opportunities for the space.
6. North Broad corridor development – for housing innovation efforts – study led by Andy Altman.
7. The university's strategic plan is about 3 years old. We should refresh it but not put it fully aside – his office will be talking to FS President Amini about faculty involvement.

8. Leadership searches underway.
 - a. Head of community relations – external search

Members of the FSSC brought up the following topics for discussion:

Provost search/academic leadership

Deans – term limits, reviews, 360 look, how faculty can participate

Can we arrange a tour of Terra Hall before renovation plans begin?

Reinstating the shuttle between main campus and Terra Hall (center city)

Considering recent federal activity – will the university make a statement to the community about our commitment to queer and trans folks?

Recent faculty forums on athletics and the research office:

Football – Trustees formed an Ad Hoc committee on athletics; pulling football now would be another shock to the system that we cannot handle

Research office – legal office battle, human resource/personnel problem

Development corridor financing – 80% financed by 3rd parties;

Question about AI – Fry says the university does not have an AI strategy now; need to present a forward vision to our students; FS will have an AI forum about research and teaching at the next Representative Faculty Senate (RFS) meeting.

President Fry left the meeting at 2:00 pm.

3. Approval of Minutes: January 21, 2025 and December 3, 2024

The minutes for January 21, 2025 should be amended to reflect that Rafael Porrata-Doria was in attendance. Minutes of 1-21-25 approved with the amendment above.

The minutes for the December 3, 2024 FSSC meeting were approved.

4. President's Report: Shohreh Amini

Proposed to invite President Fry to the University Senate meeting in May – FSSC members supported this proposal.

Vice President for Public Safety Jennifer Griffin invited to a faculty senate meeting
Michael Gephardt, Vice President and University Secretary (Board of Trustees) has been invited to address the FSSC.

The president mentioned she was interviewed for the outside review of football program.

5. Vice President's Report: Mike Bognanno

The Vice President reported on current committee vacancies.

FSSC discussed and voted to approve Pawan Sharma (LKSOM)'s application to serve on the Research Programs and Policies Committee (RPPC)

6. Old Business

7. New Business

The president announced that the Women's Symposium, co-sponsored by the FS Committee on the Status of Women will be held:

Thursday, March 27th, Charles Library 11:00 to 1:00 PM

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Kolodny
Secretary, FSSC

Next Meetings:

FSSC: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 – 1:00 pm

RFS: Monday, February 24, 2025 – 1:45 pm, Classroom 310, 1810 Liacouras Walk