

Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 23, 2024
6:00 P.M. via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Present: Shohreh Amini (President, CST), Mike Bognanno (Vice President, CLA), Fauzia Ahmad (COE), Jason Gallagher (Pharm), Dale Haines (LKSM), Robin Kolodny (CLA), Di Liu (CEHD), Matthew Miller (TFMA), Sharyn O'Mara (TYL), Michael Schirmer (FSBM), Jeffrey Solow (BCMD) Ryan Tierney (CPH), Barry McCarthy (Law), Shinya Watanabe (TUJ) Nicholas Bizzaro (KSoD), Stan McDonald (Fac. Herald),

Absent: Rafael Porrata-Doria (Past-Pres., Law), Quaiser Abdullah (KMC), Cheri Carter (SSW)

Excused: Rick Ridall (Secretary, STHM),

Admin: Cheryl Mack

AGENDA

1. Call to Order 6:06 pm
2. Approval of Minutes: December 12, 2023, October 17, 2023.

Both sets of minutes were approved unanimously.

3. President's Report: Shohreh Amini

- Update on presidential search. The current search firm does not contact internal candidates who have been nominated. Suggestion made for them to update them. Many applicants have been reviewed. Events at other colleges have made the pool of women candidates shallower. Next step is to decide which candidates should have a Zoom meeting with the committee.
- Update on request to have faculty from FSSC (Faculty Senate Steering Committee) attend full trustee meetings. There is a proposal on the table. Conversation began under the last FS President (KWW).
- Faculty Senate Service Award deadline is coming up: Faculty Senate Outstanding Service Award(FSOSA) must go through the provost's office.
- President asked Cheryl Mack if there is still a limit of three for FSOSA. The answer was yes.

Adjuncts had raised the question whether they are eligible for faculty senate service awards? Although this issue would be further discussed at later meetings, the answer was no. Similarly, NTT faculty are not eligible for research and creativity awards.

4. Vice President's Report: Mike Bognanno Candidates:

- Carlos Barrero (Pharm) Personnel Cmte.

- Omeed Firouzi (Law) Faculty of Color Cmte.
- Moritz Ritter (CLA) Assessment of Instruction Cmte., 3rd term
- Andrew Spence (COE) Personnel Cmte.

V.P. presented four nominees for committees. Two candidates are interested in the one slot on the Personnel Committee. There will be other vacancies at the end of the term, so we should appoint one now and encourage the other candidate to start then. We need to appoint one person now, and then the ballot for next year's committees will happen at the end of March. Discussion ensued about which person to appoint right now. There are five matters (soon to be six) before the committee. Consensus is to appoint Andrew Spence for the immediate vacancy and to put both Andrew Spence and Carlos Barrero on the Personnel Committee ballot in the fall. Motion made, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Omeed Firouzi (Law) is nominated for the Faculty of Color Committee. Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Moritz Ritter (CLA) willing to serve a third term on the Assessment of Instruction Committee. Most experienced members are rotating off and he would like to provide some continuity. This will be his third term. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to continue his service.

5. Old Business

Bognanno explained a change to the structure of the full Faculty Senate meetings. This is a suggestion made from the letter from faculty over the summer. The suggestion is to have a discussion on university finances, cost-cutting measures, etc. Why did some units have much more cut than others? The forum would not admit administrators until the end of the meeting. One suggestion is to have Steve Newman, chair of the Budget Committee start the discussion with a presentation.

6. New Business

Stan McDonald, editor of the Faculty Herald, attended the meeting and gave a report. He has moved the Herald to a WordPress site to make it easier to engage with and expand leadership. No more pdf format - will be fully online.

He gave the link: www.tufacultyherald.org – but asked us not to not publicize yet until the full editorial board can approve the site. Looking for people to contribute pictures and articles.

Now that it is set up as a blog, we may stop thinking about distinct issues for the Herald's dissemination. May turn to putting up new articles when available. Jason Gallagher volunteered to help the editor curate information about the TU Health Sciences Campus. Another suggestion was to post Meeting Minutes from FS meetings (and perhaps FSSC) online, which was seen as a good suggestion.

President Amini asked for additional items for discussion.

The date of the Representative Faculty Senate with the budget discussion will be in February. President Amini hopes that the new Vice Provost of Faculty, Jen Wood, will come to the January 30th Representative Faculty Senate Meeting.

O'Mara asked that if administrators are coming to give presentations to the body, we get a copy of their presentation in advance. That way, we can ask better informed questions. Steve Newman offered to share his presentation with budget administrators before the February meeting.

7. Adjournment Next Meetings:

Vote for adjournment at 7:00 p.m.

- Representative Faculty Senate, Tuesday, January 30th, 1:45 pm IDEAL Rm. D1, Tuttleman, 1809 N. 13th St.

- FSSC, Tuesday, February 6th, 1:00 pm, 3B Conwell Hall

Submitted by Robin Kolodny (for Rick Ridall)