

**University Faculty Senate
Minutes of Meeting
January 9, 2019**

The University Faculty Senate met at 8:00 am on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 in room 702 of the Cabot International Center, Medford campus, with remote locations in Boston and Grafton. Present at the meeting were Gillian Beamer (Cummings), John Castellot (TUSM), Brent Cochran (TUSM), Misha Eliasziw (PHCM), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Roger Galburt (Dental), Eulogio Guzman (SMFA), Rob Jacob (Engineering), Olympia Karacosta (TUSDM), Anne Mahoney (A&S), Will Masters (Friedman), Douglas Matson (Engineering), Mitch McVey (A&S), Ali Muftu (TUSDM), Dominique Penninck (Cummings), Pearl Robinson (A&S), Jes Salacuse (Fletcher), Lee Sillin (TUSM), Chris Swan (Engineering), Maher Tabba (TUSM), Roger Tobin (A&S), Norbert Wilson (Friedman), and Henry Wortis (TUSM). *Ex officio* members Provost ad interim Deborah Kochevar and Vice Provost Kevin Dunn were also in attendance. President Melissa Mazan presided over the meeting.

Regrets: Jenny Aker (Fletcher), Fulton Gonzalez (A&S), Vida Johnson (A&S), Jette Knudsen (Fletcher), Nirupa Matthan (HNRCA), Mary Jane Shultz (A&S)

After attendance was called and the senators were welcomed to the meeting, a motion was called, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2018 meeting,

1. Committee Reports

Nominations – John Castellot

The Nominations committee is working on a slate of 4-5 representatives for the Executive Vice President search committee. John thanked those who have volunteered, and asks for additional volunteers or suggested names to balance school representation. He plans to send the recommended slate to President Monaco at the end of the week.

Budget – Anne Mahoney

The Budget committee has met once since the December meeting, at which they talked about the logistics of making Tufts' endowment carbon-neutral. They will examine the possibility of fossil fuel divestment and plan to form an ad hoc group to explore standards and best practices and formulate recommendations. Anne asked the Senators whether they had raised the issue to their constituents in the schools; some agreed that it seems premature to bring the question to their faculties in the absence of more concrete information. It was pointed out that when AS&E addressed the issue two years ago, there were some documents generated that could be obtained and updated; the committee will reach out to the Secretary of the Faculty to inquire.

Other plans include meeting with Tom McGurty to discuss the University's current budget constraints, perhaps with a view to inviting him to a meeting of the full Senate.

Research & Scholarship – Mitch McVey for Nirupa Mathan

The Research & Scholarship committee meets monthly following the full Senate meeting. They are in the process of drafting a detailed response to the OVPR report on barriers to research, compiling survey data to address identified issues. They would be interested in having faculty from the humanities participate on the committee on an ad hoc basis.

Faculty Affairs – Chris Swan

The Faculty Affairs committee has been meeting twice a month; their current focus topic is the meaning of tenure at Tufts. They were recently visited by Paul Hattis to discuss the background and legal points of the recent medical school issue. They plan to present a report by the end of March. Specific tenure concerns include establishing university-wide norms or policies that govern the responsibilities of faculty and schools once tenure is granted.

Educational Affairs and Policy – Henry Wortis

The EAP committee has created two draft documents regarding an updated consensual relationships policy; they are now under consideration by the legal office, and the committee hopes to present one or both at the March Senate meeting.

Additional ongoing work includes an examination of third-party contracts pertaining to educational content.

2. Unfinished Business

The first item of unfinished business was discussion of a proposed amendment to the bylaws regarding faculty representation on university-wide search committees:

Proposed amendment to Article 3(4) of the By-Laws adopted by the Trustees of Tufts College on November 5, 2016, establishing the University Faculty Senate

Whereas effective university faculty governance requires the participation of the Tufts University Faculty Senate in the appointment of senior University Administrative Officers; and whereas existing Article 3(4) of the By-laws establishing the Tufts University Faculty Senate recognizes and embodies the principle of Faculty Senate participation in the appointment of senior administrative officers but is unclear as to the precise extent of the scope of that principle in its application; and whereas it is therefore necessary to amend the By-Laws to achieve such desired clarity,

Now therefore the Faculty Senate of Tufts University, pursuant to Article 8 of its By-Laws, hereby amends said Article 3 (4) as follows: “To recommend faculty for appointment to search committees for the hiring of the University President, Provost, School Deans, and Senior University administrative officers, including Vice Presidents and similar positions;”

President Monaco believes that the above language is too broad, though he agreed that faculty should be part of the Executive Vice President search. Following discussion, a motion, and second, the Senate unanimously

VOTED: To accept this amendment as a first reading, with additional consideration at the next meeting.

The proposed language will be revised and distributed no fewer than 15 days prior to the next meeting, where it will be put to a vote.

The second unfinished item concerned Senate consideration of items raised by petition. The proposed resolution reads as follows:

Proposed resolution on agenda-setting for University Faculty Senate meetings

Whereas the purpose of the Senate is to provide faculty representation from all Schools of the University designated by Article 3 of the Tufts University Faculty Senate, in order to facilitate and enhance the effectiveness of the governance of the University, and whereas effective university faculty representation requires the opportunity for all faculty voices to be heard, but existing Article 6(4) provides only that *Any elected or ex-officio member of the Senate may propose agenda items for meetings to the Senate President*, and Robert's Rules of Order make no provision for Senate floor time to be allocated by any means other than recognition by the President, we hereby declare:

Resolved: Individuals and groups of faculty are encouraged to suggest agenda items directly to any Senator, but in exceptional circumstances the Senate President shall recognize the right of other Tufts University faculty members to propose a resolution or raise topics for consideration by the Senate as a whole provided that they can demonstrate, through a signed petition of at least 30 members of the faculty body of Tufts University of which group there are at least 5 members of three different schools, that the matter is of general interest to the faculty of Tufts University. On acceptance of such a petition, the Senate President shall allocate no less than 10 minutes of

floor time for the petitioners to present their resolution and its justification, followed by discussion and vote on the proposed resolution.

This proposal would provide a mechanism by which faculty outside the Senate may bring issues to the floor which do not necessarily have the sponsorship of a Senate member or Executive Committee. In discussion, concern was expressed that the thresholds for number of signatures and schools are too high, and it was suggested that the minimum numbers be adjusted. President Mazan agreed to revise the resolution for discussion at a future meeting.

3. New Business

University College is putting out a call for nominees for election to the governing faculty of UC. Friedman representatives reported that they are sending out a call for nominees, then will be holding a ballot election. TUSM has a request for nominees as an agenda item on their January Senate meeting, and the SMFA representative has reached out to Dean Nancy Bauer, and they are working on identifying nominees.

Senators are asked to encourage people in their units to run, and the election will be overseen by Faculty Affairs officers of the University.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 am.