

Meeting of the Tufts University Faculty Senate
Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 8:00 – 9:30 am
COOLIDGE RM, Ballou Hall, Medford
Dental Becker Bd Rm 771, Boston
Administration Bldg 3rd fl conf-314, Grafton

The University Faculty Senate met at 8:00 am on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 in the Coolidge Room of Ballou Hall, Medford campus, with remote locations in Boston and Grafton. Present at the meeting were Remco Chang (Engineering), Brent Cochran (TUSM), Misha Eliasziw (PHCM), Leila Fawaz (Fletcher), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Roger Galburt (Dental), Sonia Hofkosh (A&S), Vida Johnson (A&S), Olympia Karacosta (TUSDM), Jette Knudsen (Fletcher), Anne Mahoney (A&S), Michael Malamy (TUSM), Douglas Matson (Engineering), Nirupa Matthan (HNRCA), Dominique Penninck (Cummings), Lynne Pepall (A&S), Ellen Pinderhughes (A&S), Pearl Robinson (A&S), Mary Jane Shultz (A&S), Lee Sillin (TUSM), Chris Swan (Engineering), Norbert Wilson (Friedman), Henry Wortis (TUSM), and Chantal Zakari (SMFA). *Ex officio* members Provost Nadine Aubry and Vice Provost Kevin Dunn were also in attendance. President Melissa Mazan presided over the meeting.

Regrets: Jenny Aker (Fletcher), Gillian Beamer (Cummings), Ruby Ghaffari (Dental), Will Masters (Friedman), Maher Tabba (TUSM)

1. Roll call and approval of minutes from June 12
 - a. Motion and second – passed unanimously
2. Introduction from the Chair of each standing committee, with initial agenda items
 - a. Educational Affairs and Policy – Kevin Dunn and Henry Wortis
 - i. Consensual relations policy will continue this fall
 - ii. Committee will also continue to look at online strategy
 - iii. First meeting of year will be next week
 - b. Budget – Anne Mahoney
 - i. Overview of committee charge
 - c. Nominations – Vida Johnson
 - i. Asking for more volunteers to serve on committee
 - ii. Overview of committee charge
 - iii. Also looking for senators to serve as point person for their school, if they would prefer not to be on the committee
 - iv. Email Vida if interested
 - v. First job is to provide Senate reps for Trustees
 1. Senate representatives serve on committees for academic affairs, budget, and admin & finance
 2. Must make three meetings, no substitutes Nov 1, Feb 7, May 15, 2-3:30
 3. Helps to be on parallel committee for Trustees as you are on in Senate
 - d. Research & Scholarship – Brent Cochran
 - i. R&S committee meets immediately following senate meetings each month
 - ii. Grant administration is on the docket
 - e. Faculty Affairs – Chris Swan
 - i. Report below under unfinished business
3. Unfinished business
 - a. Faculty Affairs committee's work on the meaning of tenure at Tufts - Chris Swan
 - i. Overview of purview and recent work
 1. Ombudsperson position being posted
 2. Meaning of Tenure
 - a. Looking to codify what tenure means and what are responsibilities of unit and faculty university-wide
 - b. Evaluating current procedures, looking to see if there are holes or necessary changes

- b. Review meeting with President, Provost, and Vice-Provost, concerning views of senior administration on this matter
 - i. Looked at tenure process and policy
 - ii. Take-aways
 - 1. Trustees policy document defines as “Academic freedom and economic security”
 - a. President felt that existing language was sufficient as it contained a message of implicit performance and productivity; salary can be changed without loss of tenure
 - 2. President doesn’t believe that any changes should be retroactive for those who already have tenure
 - a.
 - 3. Academic freedom is considered available to all
 - 4. President believes that economic security element could be further explored
 - iii. New Provost Nadine Aubry introduced herself and said she looks forward to working with Senate
 - 1. Faculty is the university, and sees her role as supporting the faculty
 - 2. She felt meeting with president was successful, all parties open to discussion and adding clarity to definition
 - iv. Discussion
 - 1. Suggestion for Senate to have a template for tenure discussions within schools
 - 2. Suggestion to work on definitions going forward
 - 3. Faculty Affairs committee agenda for this year will include:
 - a. Creation of a tenure discussion template
 - b. Examination of the role of external funding in “economic security” element
 - c. Examination of elements of current policy
 - d. Consideration of next steps
- 4. New business
 - a. Jette Knudsen raised a proposal to implement a more transparent process for how committee chairs are appointed
 - i. Question raised as to whether Senate needs a committee on policy
 - b. Procedure for Senate agenda items: submit requests/suggestions to Melissa Mazan at least a week in advance, two weeks for a possible resolution
 - i. Request from the floor for an update on Sackler name issue

Adjourn at 9:27