

Meeting of the University Faculty Senate
Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 8:00 – 9:30 am
Online only

The University Faculty Senate met in a special session at 8:00 am on Wednesday, May 13, 2020. Present at the meeting were Jenny Aker (Fletcher), Remco Chang (Engineering), Brent Cochran (TUSM), Misha Eliasziw (PHCM), Leila Fawaz (Fletcher), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Roger Galburt (Dental), Sonia Hofkosh (A&S), Nicole Holland (Dental), Vida Johnson (A&S), Olympia Karacosta (TUSDM), Jette Knudsen (Fletcher), Anne Mahoney (A&S), Michael Malamy (TUSM), Will Masters (Friedman), Nirupa Matthan (HNRCA), Douglas Matson (Engineering), 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: Gillian Beamer (Cummings), Maher Tabba (TUSM)

1. Approval of minutes
 - a. Motion and second – unanimously approved
2. Report from Kevin Dunn and Nadine regarding the Integrated Planning Committee and Institutional Program Review and Priorities Committee
 - a. Planning in progress for summer and fall
 - b. New Integrated Planning Committee – chaired by Kevin
 - i. Includes deans and administrators across university, ensuring inclusion of all aspects of Tufts function in planning
 - ii. Has faculty representation nominated by Senate Nominations Committee
 - iii. Will form subgroups for particular issues
 - iv. Function is to create guardrails for wide variety of functions as they resume
 - v. Thanks to Exec and Nom Com for large nomination pool, members were selected very thoughtfully
 - vi. Request to consider adding Bob Cook to IPC as GSAS dean graduate representation
 - c. New Institutional Program Review and Priorities Committee will examine programs for potential strategic efficiencies
 - i. Looking at unit structure, including administrative structures
 - d. An inter-university group is looking at issue of testing as an integral part of reopening strategy
 - i. TUSM working on its own testing capability
 - e. On the issue of outreach to students
 - i. Administration is having regular meetings with TCU Senate
 - ii. TCU Senate has surveyed students regarding plans and shared data with administration
 - f. Concerns about flexibility around diverse student populations
3. Reports from standing Committees and other reports
 - a. Faculty Affairs – Chris Swan – Ombudsperson position
 - i. Hiring process has stalled as a result of COVID situation
 - ii. Would Senate like to make a resolution to move position forward?
 1. Motion: The Senate endorses and supports the creation of a University-wide Ombuds Office [*primarily but not exclusively*] in support of faculty.
 - a. Amendment requested and passed to remove italicized text
 2. Second
 3. Motion passes
 4. Kevin will work with Faculty Affairs Committee to move forward

iii. New Title IX regulations could make an ombudsperson even more vital

4. June meeting agenda will include
 - a. Committee reports
 - b. Welcome to new senators
 - c. Wrap-up of 2019-20 year
 - d. Voting on new officer slate
5. Adjourn at 9:30