

**Meeting of the University Faculty Senate**  
**Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 8:00 – 9:30 am and 12:20 am to 1:00 pm**  
**Location – Zoom**

The University Faculty Senate met at 8:00 am and 12:30 pm on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. Present at one or both of the meeting sessions were 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), Maher Tabba (TUSM), Norbert Wilson (Friedman), Henry Wortis (TUSM), and Chantal Zakari (SMFA). Serving 2019-20 senators were joined this morning by returning senators Mitch McVey and Roger Tobin, as well as newly-elected members for the 2020-21 academic year: Carl Kirker-Head (Cummings), Mai Vu (Engineering), Tom Dannenbaum (Fletcher), Parke Wilde (Friedman), and Greg Gottlieb (Friedman). *Ex officio* members Provost Nadine Aubry and Vice Provost Kevin Dunn were also in attendance, along with guest for the 12:30 pm session, President Tony Monaco. President Melissa Mazan presided over the meeting.

Regrets: Jenny Aker (Fletcher), Gillian Beamer (Cummings)

1. Approval of two sets of minutes
  - a. 5/13/20 – Motion and second, approved with 1 abstention
  - b. 5/27/20 special session – Motion and second, unanimously approved
2. Thank-you to leaving Senators and welcome to new Senators
  - a. Leaving: Jenny Aker (Fletcher), Gillian Beamer (Cummings), Will Masters (Friedman), Norbert Wilson (Friedman), Brent Cochran (Sackler – standing for reelection), Chris Swan (Engineering), Vida Johnson (A&S), Pearl Robinson (A&S)
  - b. New: Tom Dannenbaum (Fletcher), Mai Vu (Engineering), Parke Wilde (Friedman), Greg Gottlieb (Friedman), Carl Kirker-Head (Cummings). Roger Galburt (Dental) has been reelected.
3. Black Lives Matter Resolution – presented by the Executive Committee; see text below
  - a. Friendly amendment to add “Commitment to the hiring and retention of a diverse faculty”
    - i. Motion and second; passes unanimously
  - b. Suggestion to distribute to community proactively
  - c. Suggestion for administration to take the same pledge, perhaps hold campaign to fund training
  - d. Suggestion to have statements on front page of Tufts website
  - e. Suggestion for senators to distribute to their respective faculties
  - f. Motion to accept resolution with friendly amendment
    - i. Second; passes unanimously
  - g. Melissa will send updated version to Senate for distribution in respective schools
4. Executive Committee Elections – Vida Johnson, Nominations Committee Chair
  - a. Nominations Committee consists this year of Leila Fawaz, Roger Galburt, Melissa Mazan, and Vida Johnson (would like more for next year)
  - b. Change to June election schedule was accepted and implemented last academic year, though it was never voted on
  - c. Overview of background, current slate, and procedures
  - d. Discussion about non-consecutive terms – they will be allowed going forward
  - e. Suggestion to review bylaws and adjust for procedures developed since inception of Senate
  - f. Motion to proceed with election, proceeding to nominations from the floor
    - i. Second; motion passes
  - g. No additional nominations offered from the floor
    - i. Request that for future elections, Nominations Committee ask for nominations ahead of elections
  - h. Vote on slate as presented by Nominations Committee:

- i. President – Lynne Pepall
    - ii. Vice President – Doug Matson
    - iii. Secretary – Jette Knudsen
    - iv. At-large members – Nirupa Matthan, Roger Galburt
    - v. Slate passes as presented
  - i. Request for orientation for new Senate members each fall
5. Reports from standing Committees and Provost
- a. Educational Affairs and Policy – Henry Wortis re: online teaching
    - i. Suggestion to have additional meeting to discuss – Melissa will reach out
  - b. Faculty Affairs – Chris Swan
    - i. Ombudsperson position
      - 1. See appended document
      - 2. New version adds an oversight structure for the position
      - 3. Concerns about continuity in supervision, considering that officers turn over
      - 4. Suggestion to stipulate that supervisor not be an administrator
      - 5. Next step is to pass the proposal along to administration to begin the hiring process
      - 6. Vote to accept the addition of the oversight structure to the proposal and move forward for admin
        - a. Committee motion passes unanimously
  - c. Report on fall plans – Provost Nadine Aubry
    - i. Working on plans for residential fall
    - ii. A university-wide communication is coming on or about June 22
    - iii. Situation will be complex
6. Adjourn at 9:30

### 12:30 Session

- 1. Welcome to Tony Monaco, and discussion of campus repopulation plans
- 2. Presentation – scenario planning for 20-21 (see appended document)
- 3. Q&A
  - a. Faculty will need to be prepared if they themselves need to be quarantined or become sick
  - b. Campus student capacity will be close to normal, with use of temporary housing
  - c. Expectation should be that all meetings should be online unless not feasible
  - d. Students will be asked to keep calendar to help with contact tracing; this will be recommended for everyone
  - e. Students will be tested every three days; any positive result will result in quarantine for 2 weeks
  - f. Ending the semester at Thanksgiving is currently not on the table
  - g. Request for leadership’s help in getting info to faculty
- 4. Adjourn

### **Proposed Resolution:**

**The Executive Committee, in conjunction with Ellen Pinderhughes, Pearl Robinson, Chris Swan, and Norbert Wilson, put forth the following Resolution for consideration by the Senate:**

The Tufts University Faculty Senate affirms that the recent killing of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and the countless other acts of physical and psychological brutality against Black individuals, families and communities reveal the centuries-old profound structural racism that persists in the U.S. today. To our Black students, faculty, and staff, it is a deeply personal matter. The Faculty Senate expresses its outrage over these events.

The Tufts University Faculty Senate recognizes that we must work harder in our condemnation of racism and racially motivated violence, and affirm our commitment to working towards greater equity and racial justice through our teaching, research and civic engagement. We also affirm our commitment to the recruitment and mentoring of students, along with increased support for the ongoing professional development for all our colleagues in fighting racial injustice. This is an opportunity for all faculty to hold themselves accountable for their roles – whether active or passive – in interactions during these activities. Members of the Tufts University Faculty Senate commit to rapidly engaging the university community in active dialog to identify the critical first steps to fulfill our commitment of working towards greater equity and racial justice at Tufts. As a first start, members of the Tufts University Faculty Senate also commit to engaging in anti-bias training as critical first steps in acting to fulfill our commitment of working towards greater equity and racial justice at Tufts. We call on our colleagues throughout the University to do so, as well.