

Meeting of the University Faculty Senate
Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 8:00 – 9:30 am
Location – Zoom

The University Faculty Senate met at 8:00 am on Wednesday, February 10, 2021. Present at the meeting were Brent Remco Chang (Engineering), Cochran (TUSM), Tom Dannenbaum (Fletcher), Misha Eliasziw (PHCM), Leila Fawaz (Fletcher), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Greg Gottlieb (Friedman), Sonia Hofkosh (A&S), Olympia Karacosta (TUSDM), Carl Kirker-Head (Cummings), Jette Knudsen (Fletcher), Anne Mahoney (A&S), Michael Malamy (TUSM), Nirupa Matthan (HNRCA), Douglas Matson (Engineering), Melissa Mazan (Cummings), Mitch McVey (A&S), Aikaterini Papathanasiou (TUSDM), Dominique Penninck (Cummings), Ellen Pinderhughes (A&S), Mary Shultz (A&S), Roger Tobin (A&S), Mai Vu (Engineering), Parke Wilde (Friedman), Henry Wortis (TUSM), and Chantal Zakari (SMFA). *Ex officio* members Provost Nadine Aubry and Vice Provost Kevin Dunn were also in attendance, as well as guests Associate Provost and Senior International Officer Diana Chigas and Dean of Tisch College Alan Solomont. President Lynne Pepall presided over the meeting.

Regrets: Nicole Holland (Dental), Maher Tabbat (TUSM)

1. Welcome and Introducing our new TUSDM Senator Aikaterini Papathanasiou
2. Announcement of resignation of Lee Sillin from TUSM
 - a. An election will be held to determine his replacement on the Senate
3. Brief Summary of our January 13th Conversation with Provost Aubry re: the role of the Faculty Senate (see minutes from 1/13/21)
4. Discussion with Associate Provost Diana Chigas on the University Affiliation Policy
 - a. See appended document
 - b. Revising approval process to ensure compliance with Tufts rules and regulations
 - i. Global advisory council working to ensure collaborations address risks that come with international engagement
 - ii. Additional purposes
 1. To keep an accurate record of global arrangements
 2. To ensure that all agreements get approved and recorded
 - c. There is a process currently in place with a standard approval queue
 - d. Working to make more transparent what needs to be approved, give more support, streamline the approval process
 - e. Discussion
 - i. Hoping to approve at next Academic Council meeting (March 9), with roll-out shortly afterward
 - ii. List of agreements is a work in process
 - iii. Faculty have been involved in drafting process
 - iv. Consideration of a reporting element to assess effectiveness of affiliations
 - v. Templates and resources will be available
 - vi. Suggestion for Research & Scholarship and Educational Affairs & Policy committees to examine and give feedback prior to the March 10 mtg
5. Discussion with Provost Aubry on the Dialogues Initiative
 - a. See appended document
 - b. Early in the process
 - c. Proposed name has been changed to the Generous Listening & Dialogue Center

- d. Discussion
 - i. Examples of activity that would be made possible by Center
 - 1. Centralized activities
 - 2. Infrastructure, resources, and expertise to facilitate resolution
 - 3. Strong educational component to develop skills in talking to each other
 - 4. A working group member noted the strong need for these skills
 - a. Deep vulnerability of marginalized students who don't have skillset to engage in the conversations, can't make themselves heard
 - ii. There are resources available to Tufts community, but no central place to coordinate and disseminate them uniformly around university
 - iii. Suggestion to broaden context of listening – include disciplinary contexts within schools; train faculty to listen to students
 - iv. Donor funding has been secured
 - 1. Commitment will provide whole funding for initial 5-year period, placing no burden on university
 - e. Feedback is welcome and requested
6. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Considering questions for deans from committees for March mtg
 - b. Educational Affairs & Policy - Chantal
 - i. See appended report
 - ii. Discussion
 - 1. Re: online teaching – Tufts vs. 2U ownership of video material
 - a. EAP is currently looking at related cases
 - b. Working to protect faculty rights and ensure consistency across schools
 - c. Looking at contracts to close loopholes
 - d. Legal is aware of inconsistencies and will work with committee
 - 2. Re: consensual relations
 - a. Tufts currently has no policy that doesn't involve OEO, to address possible changes in behavior
 - b. Suggestion to bring restorative justice into university process
 - 3. Request for more technical support for faculty
 - c. Faculty affairs - Roger
 - i. Committee has been feeling constrained by administration
 - ii. Tenure issue
 - 1. Collecting information on contracts; looking to make eventual recommendations
 - d. Research & Scholarship - Brent
 - i. Looking at policies for creating and governing research institutes
 - 1. Some centers have failed and shut down, some are duplicative
 - ii. Met with Kevin; continuing dialogue to create policy
 - iii. Would like Senate to have opportunity to give feedback on proposed centers and institutes
 - e. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice – Henry
 - i. Gave input on educational proposal from E&I workstream; should have update in a few weeks
 - f. Budget – Doug
 - i. See PPT slide comparing budget models
 - ii. Focusing on identifying guiding principles
 - 1. Looking to apply to pay equity
 - iii. DEI is interwoven into all categories
 - iv. Looking at how accountability is ensured

g. Nominations

- i. Recently gave nominations for committee to reimagine the Tufts Institute for the Environment (TIE)

7. Planning for upcoming meetings

- a. Welcome suggestions on ways to use March meeting with school deans
- b. Committees please formulate questions and send to Lynne in advance of mtg, with intent to send to deans a week in advance
- c. Budget committee examining accountability of deans – in advance of deans meeting, would like to understand how central administration evaluates deans
 - i. Evaluated on their performance, but also on their collaboration with other schools and units
 - ii. Request to know metrics for ensuring things such as equity in schools

8. Request for conversation orientation/onboarding for newly-elected senators

9. Adjourn at 9:35