

Meeting of the University Faculty Senate
Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 8:00 – 9:30 am
Location – Zoom

The University Faculty Senate met at 8:00 am on Wednesday, April 14, 2021. Present at the meeting were Remco Chang (Engineering), Brent Cochran (TUSM), Tom Dannenbaum (Fletcher), Misha Eliasziw (PHCM), Leila Fawaz (Fletcher), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Greg Gottlieb (Friedman), Nicole Holland (Dental), 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), Ellen Pinderhughes (A&S), Mary Shultz (A&S), Maher Tabba (TUSM), Roger Tobin (A&S), Mai Vu (Engineering), Parke Wilde (Friedman), Henry Wortis (TUSM), and Chantal Zakari (SMFA). *Ex officio* member Vice Provost Kevin Dunn was also in attendance, and President Lynne Pepall presided over the meeting.

Regrets: Dominique Penninck (Cummings), Provost Nadine Aubry

1. Approval of 3/10 Minutes
 - a. Motion and second; unanimously approved
2. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Faculty Affairs Committee: - Olympia Karacosta and Roger Tobin
 - i. See appended slides
 - ii. Proposal has been discussed with Kevin, will still need be approved by legal
 - iii. Will be circulated to deans, then will bring resolution to senate, hopefully this academic year
 - b. Educational Affairs Committee – Chantal Zakari
 - i. Consensual relations update
 1. Review has been ongoing since 2019
 2. Original intent was just to update 2012 policy; has now gone through several versions
 3. Latest version is more prescriptive and less progressive than 2012 version
 4. Discussions are ongoing with Kevin Dunn
 - ii. Online teaching and intellectual rights
 1. Working with Kevin and Akiyo Fujii
 2. Akiyo will be speaking with Provost's Council
 3. Goal is to generate a new policy, independent of the original
 4. Will take into account needs of each school
 5. Advocating for an ownership parallel between publishing a book and making a video
 6. Current policy grants more rights to university; committee is making constructive suggestions to help balance the allocation of rights
 7. Currently in second round of feedback on the draft from administration
 - iii. Discussion
 1. Looking at what happens to content when faculty member leaves, dies, no longer wants content active, etc.
 - c. Nominating Committee – Melissa Mazan
 - i. Looking to improve Senate officer election process
 - ii. Working on a slate for next year's Executive Committee, paying attention to equitable representation from all schools
 - iii. Looking to make an amendment to bylaws to clarify the election process
 - iv. Nominations Committee has assembled slate in the past, with nominations accepted from the floor
 1. Anyone interested in serving and meeting proposed criteria (see email re: nominations dated 4/5/21) is asked to self-nominate, send a statement of intent with a CV
 2. Overview of work required for Executive Committee
 3. Discussion of terms of office – Senate terms are 3 years, officers are for a term of one year

- v. Suggestion that Vice President be considered president-elect, to help with continuity and learning curve
 - 1. Concerns expressed
- vi. Proposal for vote must be distributed 15 days prior to next meeting
- d. Budget Planning and Development Committee – Doug Matson
 - i. See appended slides
 - ii. Discussion
 - 1. Concerns about limited evaluation parameters for deans regarding budgetary decisions;
 - a. Suggestion to advocate for more accountability on decision-making, reporting back to schools and faculty about how decisions are made, to ensure input and adherence to guiding principles
 - 2. Accountability has been the weak link; Senate can make a difference in creating that accountability
- e. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice Committee – Henry Wortis
 - i. Discussion on University DEI training and education proposal
 - 1. Was presented to the DEI Committee by the CDOs
 - 2. Committee recommends general approval; some additional recommendations have been submitted to the CDOs which are currently awaiting their response, including
 - a. Requesting training in passive racism
 - b. Requesting training in real-life scenarios, role-playing
 - c. Workshops in team-building & support networks
 - d. Evaluation & assessment across institution
 - 3. The education proposal is designed to be a living policy, can be edited and updated as needed
 - ii. Petition to end University investment in private prison systems
 - 1. Committee recommends approval of petition
 - 2. Discussion
 - a. Concerns about becoming involved in specific causes; better to seek representation on investment advisory committee?
 - b. Senate was specifically asked to weigh in on this faculty-sponsored initiative
 - c. Tufts has involvement in prison education initiative
 - d. Actual investment is very small
 - iii. Suggestion to do post-meeting online votes on these issues
 - 1. Concerns expressed; broad support, but further discussion required; will be revisited at a future meeting
 - 2. Suggestion to have better technological process ready for future votes (motion on screen, use a polling application, hold discussion prior to meetings)
 - iv. Suggestion to establish criteria for what types of issues Senate will weigh in on
- f. Research and Scholarship Committee – Brent Cochran
 - i. University policy for establishing Institutes and Centers;
 - 1. Believe that proposals for centers and institutes should address impact to programs to justify why they are needed
 - 2. Suggestion for Senate to have opportunity for feedback on proposed centers and institutes
 - ii. The Committee will be meeting with VPR Caroline Genco from the Office of the Vice Provost for research (OVPR) to discuss how to work together on a survey on research support at Tufts.
- g. Executive Committee – Lynne Pepall
 - i. Need to improve communication with faculty
 - ii. Would like to do newsletter for end of year, with committee summaries, historical overview, role of Senate
 - iii. Suggestions and feedback welcome
- h. Suggestion to separate out committee reports across more than one meeting
- i. Suggestion for Box folder for Senate – Lisa will create
- j. Suggestion for additional meeting regarding unfinished issue business – two weeks