

Tufts University Faculty Senate
November 10, 2021
8:00-9:30 am
Via Zoom

The University Faculty Senate met at 8:00 am on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. Present at the meeting were Remco Chang (Engineering), Brent Cochran (TUSM), Misha Eliasziw (PHCM), Leila Fawaz (Fletcher), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Fulton Gonzalez (A&S), Sonia Hofkosh (A&S), Nicole Holland (Dental), Olympia Karacosta (TUSDM), Carl Kirker-Head (Cummings), Cynthia Leveille-Webster (Cummings), Anne Mahoney (A&S), Michael Malamy (TUSM), Kris Manjapra (A&S), Nirupa Matthan (HNRCA), Melissa Mazan (Cummings), Mitch McVey (A&S), Elena Naumova (Friedman), Kevin Oye (Engineering), Aikaterini Papathanasiou (TUSDM), Ellen Pinderhughes (A&S), Erin Seaton (A&S), Agnieszka Trzcinka (TUSM), Parke Wilde (Friedman), Henry Wortis (TUSM), and Chantal Zakari (SMFA), along with guests President Anthony Monaco, Vice Provost for Research Caroline Genco, TUSM Dean *ad interim* Helen Boucher, and President/CEO of Wellforce Health System Mike Dandorff. *Ex officio* members Provost Nadine Aubry and Vice Provost Kevin Dunn were also in attendance, and President Jette Steen Knudsen presided over the meeting.

Regrets: Tom Dannenbaum (Fletcher), Mai Vu (Engineering)

1. Welcome and approval of minutes from the UFS October 13 meeting
 - a. Motion and second, passed unanimously
2. The Wellforce Initiative
 - a. Introduction of guests
 - b. Overview – Tony Monaco
 - i. Wellforce consists of many partnerships
 - ii. Supports the partnership between Tufts Medical Center and TUSM; Dean *ad interim* Helen Boucher is also part of Wellforce
 - c. Brief presentation – Mike Dandorff, Caroline Genco, and Helen Boucher
 - i. See appended slides distributed prior to meeting
 - ii. Upon coming to Tufts, began looking at integration across system, using data to deliver evidence-based care, measuring improvement in health of population
 - iii. Wellforce will help facilitate research possibilities
 - iv. TUSM & TMC have had separate research portfolios; looking at ways to bring both together
 - v. In 2020, Mike & Tony charged a task force to look at the system between TMC and TUSM
 1. Goal was to bring together faculty to better align academic & research missions
 2. Consisted of academic & research sub-groups, which presented a list of recommendations in early 2021
 - vi. CIMAR is one example of collaboration; additional projects have been emerging over past couple years
 - vii. Additional opportunities such as joint faculty hires
 - viii. Continuing to explore relationship beyond the initial phase of the process
 - ix. See slides
 - x. Discussion
 1. Lessons learned that can be applied to other areas at Tufts
 - a. Other clinical schools have learned from TUSM analysis, additional opportunities available if organization and structure can be set up
 - b. Data will be available across schools and campuses
 - c. Resource sharing will be much easier with the integration – much less paperwork
 2. Plans for adjustments in tuition?
 - a. Part of TUSM strategic plan to address high tuition problem – health system funds will help alleviate
 3. Medical schools and medical humanities – suggestion to incorporate arts & humanities into medical programs
 - a. Humanizing the workplace in the wake of COVID fatigue
 4. Medical records systems and access to Wellforce data and beyond
 - a. Data will be ready when EPIC system goes up across Wellforce

- b. System has eventual ability to access data from across country
 - c. Data has been organized into a central repository for ease of access
 - d. Also looking at new ways to engage with population to collect behavioral data
 - e. In the process of obtaining access to major databases world-wide
 - 5. Will TUSM researchers become members of science departments?
 - a. Current vision is for people to remain in their current departments, but strategy is being developed
 - 6. Leverage Wellforce for innovation opportunities
 - a. Will be a very important component of collaboration and synergizing of resources
 - b. TUSM will be filling the Innovation Officer position once Wellforce collaboration is up and running
 - c. Key TMC pillar is to become a learning health system; opportunities to bring innovation in to use at point of care
 - d. Thanks to guests for joining us today
3. Feedback on UFS university-wide faculty meeting
- a. About 65 people attending
 - b. Received feedback from attendees that they had previously been unaware of Senate's work
 - c. Suggestion to do more such events
 - d. AS&E senators have been meeting to address how to engage faculty more
 - i. Looking at representing themselves as a caucus to their constituents
 - ii. Exploring how best to create a communication avenue with faculty
 - iii. Can help create liaisons to leverage levels of faculty power
 - e. Meeting was scheduled against a competing event at TUSM; suggestion to ensure that there are no conflicts; also look at best ways to reach younger faculty
4. Nadine
- a. Tufts Institute of Artificial Intelligence is being created
 - i. Two areas of focus will be human-centered AI systems and AI ethics & policy
 - b. A task force for energy & environment is looking at next steps for TIE (Tufts Institute of the Environment)
 - c. Thanks to Senate for providing representation on both task forces
5. Executive Session: Input from UFS Committees about top committee priorities followed by discussion
6. Adjourn