

## Faculty Senate minutes, 8 December 2021

Senators present: Remco Chang (Engineering), Tom Dannenbaum (Fletcher), Misha Eliasziw (TUSM), Leila Fawaz (Fletcher), Janet Forrester (TUSM), Fulton Gonzalez (A&S), Sonia Hofkosh (A&S), Nicole Holland (TUSDM), Olympia Karacosta (TUSDM), Carl Kirker-Head (Cummings), Jette Steen Knudsen (Fletcher), Cynthia Leveille-Webster (Cummings), Anne Mahoney (A&S), Michael Malamy (TUSM), Kris Manjapra (A&S), Nirupa Mathan (Friedman), Mitch McVey (A&S), Elena Naumova (Friedman), Kevin Oye (Engineering), Aikaterini Papathanasiou (TUSDM), Ellen Pinderhughes (A&S), Erin Seaton (A&S), Agnieszka Trzcinka (TUSM), Mai Vu (Engineering), Parke Wilde (Friedman), Henry Wortis (GSBS), Chantal Zakari (SMFA)

Others in attendance: Nadine Aubry, provost; Kevin Dunn, vice provost for academic affairs; Caroline Genco, vice provost for research, incoming interim provost

Senators not attending: Brent Cochran (GSBS), Melissa Mazan (Cummings)

Called to order 8:01 by President Jette Steen Knudsen.

Minutes of meeting of 10 November 2021 approved by acclamation.

Vice Provost Caroline Genco gave a brief summary of her goals and her activities during the transition in the provost's office, and took questions. She has been meeting with deans and faculty, and has been working with an external consultant (Huron Consulting Group) and an internal working group to study the organization of the provost's office.

Summary of discussion:

### 1. Identity and reputation of Tufts

- (a) "student-centered research university": R1, not SLAC
- (b) global focus, including civic engagement
- (c) climate (both research and action)
- (d) integration between research and education, from training post-docs to research experience for undergraduates

### 2. Faculty governance

- (a) provost as chief academic officer, thus both an administrator and a faculty member
- (b) place of Senate in decision-making and in setting strategies
- (c) Senate as means for provost to discuss issues with faculty representatives

### 3. Faculty recruitment, retention, and support

- (a) diversity: models from sciences may not apply in humanities departments
- (b) co-ordination across schools, for example when hiring in similar fields, or to create positions for candidates' partners
- (c) funding not only from NIH grant but from our own resources as well
- (d) does an increase in research expectations mean bringing in more contingent faculty to do the teaching?

### 4. Chief Diversity Officers

- (a) need support from scholars with expertise in study of race (faculty)

## 5. Teaching and students

- (a) affordable education
- (b) support for PhD students, particularly in departments with little federal grant funding; equitable treatment of PhD students across schools
- (c) expansion of masters programs, particularly on line, and how this can conflict with PhD programs in same departments
- (d) similarly, how new or larger masters programs can drain resources from undergraduate programs
- (e) strategies for graduate education may require adding faculty

The meeting entered executive session at 8:53. The standing committees reported.  
The meeting adjourned at 9:25.