



PHILADELPHIA
UNIVERSITY

TO: Faculty, Staff and Administrators
FROM: Megan Wood
Manager of Faculty Affairs, Office of the Provost
RE: March 24, 2015 Faculty Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Agenda

Prof. Howard called the meeting to order on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 12:31 p.m. in the Kanbar Performance Space. The agenda was approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 17, 2015 Full Faculty Meeting

Prof. Howard asked for any corrections to the minutes of the February 17, 2015 faculty meeting, the minutes were approved.

Reports of the Provost / Dean of Faculty Provost

Provost Randy Swearer

Dr. Swearer announced that Sue Lehrman, Academic Dean of the School of Business Administration, will be leaving Philadelphia University to take the position of dean at Rowan University's William G. Rohrer College of Business, effective

Faculty Voices

Open to Faculty

Prof. Howard opened the floor to faculty voices.

Prof. Laine reported on a recent Roxboro Roundtable, "What does Ferguson say about race relations in the US?." Prof. Evan Laine stated that the program was in response to students' interests and concerns about the topic; they wanted the conversation to continue. Prof. Laine said the Roundtable was not well attended by faculty. Students remarked that faculty attendance would have made the event more meaningful.

Reports of Standing Committee:

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Prof. Barbara Kimmelman

Prof. Barbara Kimmelman announced that UTLA will be sponsoring and running a March 31 workshop for all program directors.. Focus is on end of cycle reflection in assessment and how to move forward with constructing your program's new assessment cycle. Hoping all program directors can be there. Assessment advocates have been collecting items to address pertaining to assessment cycles. A meeting invite with location has been sent to all program directors.

University Personnel Committee

Prof. Valerie Hanson

Professor Hanson announced that under new business today, the UPC will bring a motion for a vote

Special Reports

None

Unfinished business

None

New Business

UPC Motion (Org of the Faculty)

Prof. Valerie Hanson

Professor Hanson announced through a review of the UPC charges relative to the new Faculty Manual, there are some recommendations regarding changes to UPC charges. In order to be consistent in the review of probationary contracts, it is recommended that the UPC is removed from reviewing negative contract review recommendations from the CPC. This would be striking language that is already not in effect. Valerie moved through the recommendations of change to the Organization of the Faculty charges of the UPC.

Include in routine evaluations of reviews and procedures. Minor and major changes to the Org of Faculty charges.

Discussion:

Q: Who will evaluate negative decisions?

A: The CPC and UPC make recommendations, not decisions. Everything is a recommendation up to the level of the President. The decision is made at the level of the President, so a negative decision cannot be appealed until made.

According to counsel, review procedures may be based on contract, not on recommendation. Reviews procedure need to be identical and then move to Provost Office.

Motion made and seconded to bring to electronic vote. Expect to see the vote. The chair of the faculty reminded everyone that a change to the Organization of the Faculty requires 2/3 of the voting faculty body.

Children in the classroom

B. Shepard-Rabadam and M. Govoni

Beth Shepard-Rabadam and Mark Govoni presented regarding draft policy regarding children in the classroom. This was a follow up to the matter which was discussed during Faculty Voices in February.

Beth reviewed the issue which prompted the concern. In response, a working group was created; benchmarking was completed; and a simply stated policy was drafted. In addition to the discussion at Faculty Voices, the Student Experience Committee and Provost's Council were included in the consultation about the issue and policy. In response to the consultation, the working group expanded the statement, which was read to the faculty members in attendance.

Discussion:

Q: How do you define age of children? What age?

A: We did not put an age on it, but the intent is someone under 18 years of age.

Q: As part of the Occupational Therapy program brings children into the classroom as part of the teaching and learning experience. A: This is covered in our current insurance policy.

Q: Are Architecture reviews are covered under this? May a student's daughter or sibling come to the final review?

A: The policy implies that student may seek permission with instructor. If instructor has a problem the instructor can consult with the Dean. Permission is granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Q: The policy reads very abruptly. Policy reads as no children allowed regardless of the situation. Reconsider rewording in a softer way to illustrate permissions can be granted. Several concur, suggesting a language change.

Q: the Midwifery Program has a program policy that states parents of a 6-month old child who is breastfeeding may bring child to campus. This faculty member felt that not allowing the student to bring the breastfeeding child may be discrimination.

A: Programs are permitted to have their own policies and should do so in consultation with the Dean.

Q: Suggestion that we check on the Philadelphia statute on midwifery – it is very clear. Can PhilaU also have a lactation lounge? First floor in Hayward could be used for breastfeeding lounge and is next to a bathroom.

A: good suggestion and Matt Baker is looking for rooms on campus as well.

Q: Is this policy a childfree classroom or a childfree campus?

A: This policy is about classroom.

Q: What were the perspectives expressed on the Student Experience Committee?

A: there was no material opposition to the recommended policy.

Questions: who did we benchmark with?

A: There were approximately 5 schools.

Q: are there benchmarks for faculty?

A: There were no faculty-specific benchmarks. They were general statements about the learning environment. One was a syllabus statement.

Q: Were there graduate students in the experience committee. Carol Hermann, SEC chair, stated that graduate students were not in attendance.

Beth Shepard-Rabadam stated that she would return to the next faculty meeting with a draft that addresses the concerns raised in the faculty meeting.

Report of the President

Dr. Stephen Spinelli

Dr. Spinelli presented a YouTube video.

President Spinelli reviewed University achievements and accomplishments including awards, etc. President Spinelli announced that we should be proud of our accomplishments as we prepare to accomplish more. We enter the enrollment season with participation with this season. The rewards are great and we need all to be involved. Many thanks to all.

Announcements

Karen Albert :

- The Chronicle of Higher Education has new app for mobile devices. PhilaU upgraded its membership so that affiliates could receive the Chronicle on their mobile devices.

- The Library has produced a new research companion tool to help students learn information literacy and writing skills.

David Breiner:

CABE's Bachelor of Landscape Architecture is reaccredited. Many thanks to all those who are involved.

Marcella Milio, curator of the Textile and Costume Collection:

The Collection, located in The Design Center, will be offering Open Hours.

Adjourned at 1:28 pm.