



**PHILADELPHIA**  
UNIVERSITY

TO: Faculty, Staff and Academic Administrators  
FROM: Jessica L. Holt  
Manager of Faculty Affairs  
RE: February 16, 2016 Faculty Meeting Minutes

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Professor Howard called the meeting to order on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. in the Kanbar Performance Space. The agenda was approved.

Each meeting is recorded and posted on the Provost's website [<https://www.philau.edu/provost/meetings/>] for any faculty not able to attend.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the January 19, 2016 Full Faculty Meeting**

Professor Howard asked for any corrections to the minutes of the January 19, 2016 faculty meeting; no corrections were made, thus, the minutes were approved.

### ***Reports of the Provost / Dean of Faculty***

**Matt Baker**

Dr. Baker expressed his thanks for the condolences on the passing of his mother.

Dr. Baker reminded the faculty that the services for Emeritus Professor G. Carter Pierce this week and encouraged those who can attend to do so.

Dr. Baker congratulated everyone on a successful visit from the Middle States Team, with special recognition to Pat Thatcher, Barbara Kimmelman, Jeff Cromarty, and Carla Mandell. Overall, the areas that the University self-identified as successes and areas for improvement, the Middle States team arrived at the same conclusion.

Dr. Baker reported that there was an assessment of the writing program. The exit report notes that we are succeeding in this program, specifically the interactions between the program and the Hallmark's courses, as well as reach to graduate students. He expressed his thanks to the individuals who took part in the assessment as well as in the self-study.

Dr. Baker reviewed his prepared presentation materials. The presentation reviewed priorities of the Provost's Office and Academic Affairs Office for 2016. Of note, Dr. Baker highlighted the Service to Non-Traditional Students, Diversity, and Adjunct Faculty and New Staffing Models. In regards to Diversity, a Diversity Committee is being established with new positions being created in the Office of Student Life as well as hiring practices being reviewed within Human Resources. For Adjunct Faculty, ways to expand relationships as well as match needs at the University with what the workforce demands will be a priority. While discussing the importance of global reach, Associate Professor Sheila Connelly introduced Dr. Federica Vacca, a visiting Professor from the Politecnico di Milano. She is on campus to assist Philadelphia University develop a new graduate-level academic program in Fashion Design Management offered in partnership with Politecnico di Milano.

Questions were taken from the floor.

### **Faculty Voices - Open to Faculty**

Professor Howard opened the floor to faculty voices.

#### **University “Marriage” – Name? Contracts?**

**S. Christoffersen**

Associate Professor Sue Christoffersen, the Kanbar College representative to the Faculty Council, explained that their charge as a Council is to collect concerns from individuals who are either unable or do not feel comfortable raising questions themselves at the Faculty Meeting. As a result, she asked for further clarifying details about the merger with TJU and the effect it could have on the name of the University as well as contracts and benefits. Dr. Spinelli responded and stated that he will comment further when he provides his report later in the meeting.

Professor Howard spoke about the passing of Emeritus Professor G. Carter Pierce and her time working alongside him as part of the “Loose Canon Club.” She remarked that he was the conscious of the campus and requested a moment of silence.

#### ***Reports of Standing Committee:***

##### **Election Cycle Update**

**N. Howard**

Professor Howard provided an update on the status of the Faculty Elections. Both the election results for the Chair of the Faculty and the UPC will be sent shortly. In addition, an email has been sent for nominations regarding the four standing committee chairs. Currently, only one name has been put forth. She reminded the group that service to the University and college committees are both a right and a responsibility. In addition, she commented that there is a new position for an adjunct faculty member for faculty council. Barbara Kimmelman added that nominations for election to college committees are the first opportunity for junior faculty to obtain service experience.

#### ***Special Reports***

##### **Study Abroad Sub-Committee**

**M. Wilcox**

Madeleine Wilcox presented information on the Office of Global Education and Initiatives, specifically the International and Domestic Study Away Programs offered by the University. She highlighted the services offered, benefits of the programs as well as the PhilaU Centers, Study Abroad Partners, and Exchange Agreements/ Consortia offerings. Ms. Wilcox also discussed the initiatives and new growth opportunities. She expressed her thanks to those who have provided their assistance in developing these areas. As a reminder, the Office is located in Kanbar 102, and additional details, including program deadlines can be found on the website. [<http://www.philau.edu/globaleducation/index.html>].

##### **Collaboration Clearing House**

**K. Gindlesparger**

Director of Writing, Katie Gindlesparger, provided information regarding conversations that have been conducted with TJU, regarding assistance from the writing program in regards to researching trauma. She stated that this concept of having a centralized area to record and discuss collaboration matters would make sense. Associate Professor Rob Fryer, member of the AOO, also noted that this would be a good opportunity to recognize planning that is going on as well as provide initiatives to the integration team. Professor Barbara Kimmelman commented that multiple contacts are being made between various personnel at both PhilaU and TJU. A central repository recording these interactions could provide an understanding of what discussions and collaborations are occurring and collaborations. At

this time, the structure of this collaboration clearing house is unknown as well as who would keep these records.

**Hayward SM16 Renovation  
SM16 Campus Construction Plans**

**B. Shepard-Rabadam  
T. Becker**

Tom Becker presented information on the Campus Construction Plans for the upcoming summer and beyond. Specifically, he highlighted the three coordinated projects of the Health Science Center, the Fashion and Textiles Future Center, and the Hayward Back-fit of Allied Health and Common Areas to occur in 2016-2018. Mr. Becker noted that the Health Science Center was originally conceived to be three stories, however, it may be upgraded to four, based upon conversation with TJU. And space needed for expanded programs. In addition, for summer 2016, there will be additional projects to address energy services and renovations to the upper floor in the Ravenhill Dining Hall. The presentation slides included visualizations and building layouts of the work being done in Hayward Hall to show where disruptions will occur along with the project schedule. Mr. Becker expressed his thanks to those who have been assisting with this and advised that the next summer planning meeting will occur next week.

Beth Shepard-Rabadam provided information specifically on the Hayward Hall renovations to occur this summer. She stated that for those faculty members who have classes that require rooms on Hayward 2, the Registrar is aware of the requirements and is working on making arrangements. In addition, for the Midwifery and DMM programs who have summer intensives, the Registrar is working to coordinate these classes and find alternative spaces. Lastly, she reported that the Green Friday program will again occur this summer in July.

Questions were raised concerning the loss of parking once renovations start. Mr. Becker remarked that there are parking options available, especially near Ravenhill, and while they may not be as convenient, there should not be a concern that parking will not be available.

Dana Perlman raised a concern over how best to address the Midwifery students who will be coming to campus for the first time over the summer and will be greeted with the construction. Beth Shepard-Rabadam responded that the message should be that this is great news and shows a growing health sciences program. Further discussions should take place to provide transparent pre-messaging, but overall, the construction is evidence of a growing campus, with increased resources being allocated their program.

Professor Howard commented that as faculty move out of their offices in Hayward, there should be a centralized record of where individuals are moving to, so that they can be located.

***Unfinished Business***

None presented.

***New Business***

**Org of the Faculty – Voting Changes**

**C. Pastore**

Professor Chris Pastore presented background on the proposed change to the voting threshold of the Organization of the Faculty. The proposed motion would require that at least 75% of eligible voting faculty vote on any motion to change the Organization of the Faculty and that at least 2/3 of those who participate in the voting must approve the changes. Professor Barbara Kimmelman commented that while she is probably the most vocal opponent of a change to the voting, she does appreciate the frustration of individuals when valuable changes do not pass in the current voting structure. She is appreciative of the proposed compromise. Professor Howard noted that the motion will be provided to

the Faculty via email for a vote and will be available for a week. The motion was approved and seconded.

### **Report of the President**

**Dr. Stephen Spinelli**

Dr. Spinelli expressed his thanks to Pat Thatcher, Barbara Kimmelman and Jeff Cromarty for all their work regarding Middle States. The positive conclusion that the Middle States team at the end of their visit is validation of the curriculum, staff and faculty.

Dr. Spinelli discussed the merger with TJU and timeline, in response to the questions raised earlier by Sue Christoffersen. He remarked that the definitive agreement will go to the PhilaU Board of Directors around March 11, 2016, and depending upon the result the merger would be effective on or about July 1, 2016. Dr. Spinelli explained that he will be in charge of the integration process, which will be in support of the strategic plan to occur over a span of three years. There will be a joint board that will oversee the strategic planning and an oversight board. Formal work, surrounding programming, is underway regarding pathway/ collaboration agreements in the areas of pharmacy, nursing and public health which can be woven into enrollment activity upon completion of the merger. Dr. Spinelli reiterated that TJU faculty are excited at the opportunity the merger offers. Dr. Mark Tykocinski, Provost at TJU, will also be visiting campus in the future to speak with the faculty.

### **Announcements**

Karen Albert reminded attendees of the upcoming book event for Ray Poteau and D.K. Malhotra on February 18, 2016. The invitation was emailed and faculty are encouraged to attend.

Stan Gorski stated that the library is looking to hire an electronic resources librarian. The library will utilize the library search committee comprised of Michelle Gorenberg, Kihong Ku, Janet Brady, David Rogers, Huang Chang, Jeff Cepull, Susan Calder, Beth Shephard-Rabadam and himself, along with students to review candidates.

Beth Shepard-Rabadam reminded attendees that the retirement reception for Karen Albert will be on February 25, 2016. The invitation was emailed and all are encouraged to attend.

Ron Kander reminded attendees that the Grundy Lab is holding an open house immediately following the Faculty Meeting. An invitation was emailed and all are encouraged to attend.

Carla Mandell reminded attendees that nominations of faculty for the *President's Award for Excellence and the Lindback Award* are due February 19, 2016. An email with instructions on criteria and eligibility requirements has been previously emailed. She advised attendees that Commencement information will begin to be distributed starting next week, and information can also be found on the Commencement webpage [<http://www.philau.edu/commencement/>]. Ms. Mandell also reminded attendees that Philadelphia University through the SD MBA program will host the Philadelphia site for the 2016 Global Service Jam February 26- February 28, 2016, which is an event for individuals interested in "service, service design, design thinking, rapid prototyping, creativity and having fun." The invitation and details of the event was emailed to the campus community and all are encouraged to participate.

Jeff Ashley reminded attendees that the CTiNL has provided free campus-wide access to the Transforming the Teaching & Learning Environment 2016 Virtual Conference. An invitation, along with conference access instructions were emailed, and all are encouraged to participate. Of note, Philadelphia University faculty members, Susan Frosten, Sally Dankner and Jeff Ashley will be presenting. Mr. Ashley also reminded attendees that Nexus Learning Grant applications are due March 4, 2016. In addition, upcoming EduSeries workshops include *Attitudes towards Ethics in Biology* on February 17, 2016 led by Frank Wilkinson and Ryan Long, and *Participatory Action Research, Learning*

*through the Lense of Change* on February 18, 2016 led by Megan Fuller and Radika Bhaskar. An invitation to these events has been emailed and all are encouraged to attend.

Adjourned at 1:53 p.m.