



PHILADELPHIA
UNIVERSITY

TO: Faculty, Staff and Academic Administrators
FROM: Jessica L. Holt
Manager of Faculty Affairs
RE: March 21, 2017 Faculty Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Agenda

Professor Nancy Howard, chairing the meeting in place of Professor Pierce, called the meeting to order on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 12:32 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 February 21, 2017 Full Faculty Meeting

Professor Howard presented the minutes, which were acknowledged and submitted.

Student Announcement

PhilaU Hillel Chapter Announcement

S. Kaplan & R. Warren

Students, Shana Kaplan and Rachel Warren, spoke to the Faculty regarding the Holocaust Speaker Event on April 24, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Kanbar Performance Space. They asked for faculty support from all colleges to encourage student attendance. They noted that this event may help with the campus understanding of the recent swastika event that occurred on campus.

Faculty Voices

None at this time

Report of the Provost/ Dean of the Faculty

M. Baker

Provost Baker was unable to attend the meeting and no report was presented.

Reports of the Standing Committees

Academic Opportunities and Oversight Committee

V. Hanson

Valerie Hanson reported that the AOOC continues to work on the 2017-18 schedule. The AOOC is collecting information from stakeholders and anticipate having a schedule to distribute by the end of April. In addition, a form was developed for new minor proposals. Please contact your CEC Chair for a copy or additional information.

Special Reports

Nexus Learning Hub – Tuttleman 206

J. Ashley

Jeff Ashley directed attendees to the presentation materials that were provided prior to the meeting. He reviewed the history and purpose of the Nexus Learning Hubs, and their locations. In addition, he provided information on the effectiveness of utilizing these spaces by reporting a post-occupancy evaluation by students which indicate that the Nexus Learning Spaces rate higher in areas such as collaboration, physical movement, and focus. Two (2) hubs were launched in 2015-16, as well as the overhaul of informal spaces in Ravenhill and the library. Tuttleman 206 is scheduled to be updated in summer 2017. CTiNL has been working with corporate sponsors to design the new space with the intention to keep the front of the classroom open, and utilize various seating, including ottomans, to create a “tiered seating” arrangement and maximize sightlines. Any faculty who is interested in teaching in this space should reach out to Jeff.

Undergraduate Online Summer Courses

J. Ashley & B. Shepard-Rabadam

Jeff Ashley directed attendees to the presentation materials that were provided prior to the meeting. As a follow up to a prior presentation, Jeff explained that the need for this offering was to supply students from PhilaU and other Universities, who otherwise would take these same courses elsewhere, with an opportunity to do so here. For summer 2017, there will be four (4) courses offered as 12 week, 3 credit courses:

- ECON205 (Macroeconomics)
- MATH103 (Applied Calculus)
- ENGR215 (Engineering Statics)
- ARTH102 (History of Western Art II)

Jeff reviewed the students eligible for these courses and how to advise students interested in taking them, noting that it is important to remind students that these courses could impact financial packages as well as the time commitment involved. Resources are available for students and advisors to determine if online classes are appropriate for a student. Any questions about the courses can be directed to Jeff.

Enrollment Trends and HERI Faculty Survey

M. Palladino

Mark Paladino directed attendees to the presentation materials which were provided prior to the meeting regarding the trends in college enrollment for 2016-17. He reviewed the national trends of undergraduate enrollment at 4-year US colleges and universities, noting that enrollment hit a plateau in fall 2010 and has remained at that level. The projected total of high school graduates through 2023-24 has also remained constant. Graduation rates based upon race and ethnicity show that Caucasian graduates are projected to decrease and Hispanic graduates are projected to increase. Geographically, high school graduates will increase in the south and west, with a decrease in the northeast. At PhilaU, these trends are evident with the declining day enrollment by Caucasian students and increasing enrollment by minority students.

Mark commented that PhilaU has done a good job at staying ahead and recognizing the trends in enrollment and shifting priorities. In addition, with the current political climate surrounding non-resident students, and the focus in the past of attracting these students to the University, it will be important to monitor and adjust recruitment strategies for these students. With the exception of China, countries placed on travel restriction lists are great providers of students, especially in graduate programs. D.R. Widder noted that moving forward it will be important to review what makes us unique, such as Nexus Learning, focus on making smart choices with the strategic build, such as investing in a broader portfolio of students, and analyzing the aid distribution among undergraduate recruitment.

There was also discussion regarding the increased financial cost of higher education and families questioning the need for college, especially among first generation and low income families.

Mike Dryer noted that an initiative has begun with community colleges to bring forward a 3+2 arrangement, in order to attract these students into the pipeline.

Mark then moved onto discussion around the HERI Faculty Survey. Faculty should have received the email with the link. Due to the fact that PhilaU is a small population, responses are important in order to create an accurate dataset and view of the sub-populations on campus. The survey has been conducted since 2006, and the results are used in self-studies as well as shared with various committees. This year especially, responses will be helpful to obtain a pulse on the campus climate as we integrate. The survey closes on April 15th.

Unfinished Business

The Faculty and Staff Community Forum will be held on April 27, 2017 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm in the DEC Forum regarding the integration. Adobe Connect will be made available.

Faculty members expressed displeasure with the lack of notice surrounding this forum so that they could make arrangements to move other meetings.

New Business

None at this time

Report of the President

Dr. S. Spinelli

Dr. Spinelli was unable to attend the meeting and no report was presented.

Announcements

Anne Bower announced that the Global Medical Brigade will be traveling to Honduras and are looking for donations, specifically toothpaste, toothbrushes, and other dental items. The group needs 2,000 of each item. A box is available to collect donations in Search Hall 3010.

Susan Frosten reminded attendees that assessment advocates are available to meet. Please contact Dana Scott with questions or to schedule a meeting.

Jeff Cepull introduced the new Director of Administrative Computing, Emily Fargione. Emily spent the past two years at Temple University School of Medicine as a Senior Software Developer on the Ellucian Banner system. Prior to her time at Temple University, Emily held the position of Senior Programmer here at Philadelphia University working on the Ellucian Colleague system.

Adjourned at 1:20 p.m.