Minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting – 9/10/2015

Attendees: Roger Tobin, Judith Haber, Alva Couch, Harry Bernheim, Jack Ridge, Kim Ruane

We need to have representatives for several things.

3 Trustees Committees:

1. Budget and Finance Committee

Suggested that the rep comes from B&P rather than this committee - Roger will contact them to have someone be the representative.

2. Academic Affairs (Judith)

3. Advancement (Jack)

Liaisons:

Budget and Priorities (Kim), Committee on Committees (Harry), and EPC (Alva)

Two things came up over the summer:

1. Complaint from Campus Planning and Development committee about feeling left out of the loop on the green line extension construction with the walkway. Broader theme about failure to consult on this and other projects. Representatives from the group would like to come to one of our meetings.

2. Paul Joseph and some others want to have a discussion about divestment from fossil fuels. We need to figure out the best way to bring it to the faculty. The big question is when and how do we get started on this. Discuss on Forum? Faculty meeting? Do this before proposing a resolution of any sort? Should we invite Paul Joseph and others to the next meeting of the Executive Committee?

Decision: Invite Paul Joseph to the next meeting and have the others come to a later meeting. This is perhaps more time sensitive than the first issue because there is a desire to bring this to the Trustees in the November meeting.

Another big issue: SMFA wants to be absorbed by Tufts. Does it make any financial sense? If the trustees say it does not, then it will most likely never come to us. If there is a chance this will happen, then it will definitely have to come through this committee. Some concerns about transfer of credit issues were raised.
T&P wants to change from 6 to 7 people on the committee. There may be questions about whether committee workload warrants this increase.

There are many changes coming up (small and not so small) to be made to several committees. Some will require by-law changes. These must appear on two agendas. Perhaps some of these can get taken care of in the September 30th meeting.