Tufts Summer Session Faculty Committee Annual Report 2015-2016

The Tufts Summer Session Faculty Committee serves the School of Arts & Sciences and the School of Engineering by overseeing the direction of summer academic programming and course development. With an eye on the educational priorities of the schools, the Committee reviews and guides the program in an effort to extend summer learning with Tufts and visiting student populations. For example, the work of this group assures that:

1. Summer programming meets the same academic standards as courses offered in the fall and spring terms;
2. Summer courses are taught by instructors who fulfill expectations for academic and teaching excellence and that department hiring is consist with hiring practices in other academic periods;
3. The summer selection process yields qualified non-matriculated students who can succeed in a Tufts classroom.

This committee met in person twice during the 2015-2016 academic year. On October 16, 2015, the group reviewed the enrollment and financial performance of summer 2015 classes to discuss goals for summer 2016 course development and provide feedback to the Director of Tufts Summer Session on programming initiatives for the upcoming summer session. On April 22, 2016, the committee met to discuss opportunities for growing Tufts summer enrollment and profits, roadblocks to that growth, and a strategy for communicating recommendations about enabling expanded summer programming for profit.

The group opted to develop and review summer courses via email. This allowed for timely and thoughtful feedback on the relevance of proposed courses, the viability of those courses to summer student population, and consistency with the priorities of the schools. Committee members reviewed seven special topics courses that have not been offered previously, and approximately 220 repeat courses that are regular department offerings.

Highlights of this committee's work in 2015-2016 include:

- Evaluated the Tufts Summer Online program in summer 2015, which included twenty asynchronous online courses. Seventeen courses were repeated from the previous summer, and three were new. The committee noted enrollment strength, high levels of student and faculty satisfaction, and continued attentiveness to academic integrity.
- Approved Director Recroft’s recommendation for summer 2016 instructional compensation and tuition rates.
- Reviewed and approved seven special topics courses not offered previously in any academic term, and approximately 220 repeat summer courses in 2016.
- Recommended organizational improvements that would assure that Tufts Summer Session has the resources needed to meet the challenges of growing enrollments and revenue.

Membership
Bianconi, Marcelo (Economics)
Hassoun, Soha (Computer Science)
Locke, David (Music)
Rosso-O’Laughlin, Marta (Romance Languages)
Ruane, Kim (Mathematics), Chair
Saigal, Anil (Mechanical Engineering)
Tobin, Roger (Physics)
Wang, Mingquan (GRALL)

Ex Officio
Barker, John (Dean of Undergraduate & Graduate Students)
Krause, Benya (TCU Senate Representative)
Roh, Terrance (GSAS Representative)
Recroft, Sean (Tufts Summer Session)