AS&E Faculty Meeting, Wednesday, December 2, 2015

Schedule and Location

Wednesday, December 2, 2015, 12:00 PM – 1:20 PM
Coolidge Room, Ballou Hall
Light lunch, coffee, and water served at 11:30 AM

Agenda

Announcements

T&P Committee Election
Ioannis Evrigenis, Chair, Committee on Committees

Old Business

Vote on Proposed Bylaw Change for the Committee on Committees
Ioannis Evrigenis, Chair, Committee on Committees

Vote on Proposed Bylaw Change for the Committee on the Library
Daniel Abramson, Chair, Library Committee, and Laura Wood, Director of Tisch Library

New Business

Resolution on the Retirement of Robyn Gittleman
Howard Woolf, Director, Experimental College

Syllabus Disability Access Statement
Mark Brimhall-Vargas, Chief Diversity Officer
Linda Sullivan, Director of Student Accessibility Services

Proposal for Make-up Days for Campus Closing, for Spring 2016
Anne Mahoney, Chair, Educational Policy Committee

Discussion of the Inclusive Classroom
President Monaco and Provost Harris with Dr. Donna Qualters, Associate Professor Keith Maddox,
and Associate Professor Samuel Sommers

Discussion of Possible Divestment of Fossil Fuels from the University’s Endowment Funds
Paul Joseph, Sociology Department
Henry Jacqz, Undergraduate Student

Adjournment
For Reference
*Please print all attachments and bring them with you to the meeting; a limited number of hard copies will be available at the meeting.

- Briefing Information
- Resources for Student Inclusion and Universal Design in Learning
- Divestment FAQ Document

Listings of future faculty meetings as well as the agenda and attachments for this meeting are online at [http://ase.tufts.edu/faculty/meetings/](http://ase.tufts.edu/faculty/meetings/).

Below the Line Announcements
AS&E Faculty Awards: all nominations are due by February 29, 2016. Click here for nomination instructions: [http://ase.tufts.edu/faculty/awards/](http://ase.tufts.edu/faculty/awards/).
T&P Committee Election

Due to the outcome of the vote at the October 28th AS&E Faculty Meeting, there is a need to elect 2 new members to join the T&P Committee in May 2016, one of whom must be an engineering faculty member. Due to a shortened term for Todd Quinto, there is a need to elect a third new member to join the committee in May 2016. This means 6 nominees, as required by the bylaws, need to be on the ballot for the upcoming election, which will take place via Qualtrics December 9-11, and the results will be announced on December 14, 2015. Nomination information and the eligibility list are available here: http://ase.tufts.edu/faculty/committees/elections/tenurePromotion.htm

Old Business

Vote on Proposed Bylaw Change for the Committee on Committees

Speakers: Ioannis Evrigenis, Chair, Committee on Committees

Summary: Changing the bylaws to allow those replacing members on elected committees for more than half but less than a whole term to be able to stand for election in the next cycle.

Key Issues: Allowing those who have served less than a full term to do so if they are interested and have already acquired knowledge of the work involved, ensuring continuity and minimal disruption, as well as robust lists of candidates.

Current version:
(b) Re-election. An individual who has served either a full term or a partial term amounting to a half term or more shall be ineligible for re-election to that committee for two years.

Proposed version:
(b) Re-election. An individual who has served either a full term or a partial term amounting to a half term or more shall be ineligible for re-election to that committee for two years.

Rationale:
According to the Bylaws, "If a duly elected member of a committee cannot serve for any portion of the term, the runner-up for that committee at the most recent regular or special election shall be declared elected if the runner-up is available and is eligible" [3 (d)].

According to the existing version of 3 (b), if such a change occurs before the midpoint of a term, the member who has stepped onto the committee is not allowed to run for a full term for two years, even if he or she is willing to continue on the committee. The Committee on Committees recommends that those who have served less than a full term be allowed to complete one before becoming ineligible for re-election to the committee in question.

Action required: Vote on December 2, 2015
Vote on Proposed Bylaw Change for the Committee on the Library

**Speakers:** Daniel Abramson, Chair, Library Committee, and Laura Wood, Director of Tisch Library

**Summary:** The current bylaws are very specific regarding the title of the “Associate Director for Teaching, Research, and Information Resources.” This title is no longer in use. With Laura Walter’s retirement in December, we propose revising the description to be flexible for evolving library roles/titles and to include the option of designee which is used in other committee bylaws. The request is to change the title to “Associate Director or designee.”

**Key Issues:** Keeping bylaws accurate.

**Current version:**
A Committee on the Library, consisting of four or more members, at least four of whom have professorial rank, with no more than one member from any one department; the Chair of the Committee on Budget and University Priorities; two undergraduate students designated by the TCU Senate; one graduate student designated by the Graduate Student Council; and ex officio members with voting privileges: the Director of Tisch Library and the **Associate Director for Teaching, Research, and Information Resources, Tisch Library.** The committee shall study and make recommendations concerning library policies, budget, collections, and services. It shall also assist in the dissemination of information about the library to constituent groups.

**Proposed Version:**
A Committee on the Library, consisting of four or more members, at least four of whom have professorial rank, with no more than one member from any one department; the Chair of the Committee on Budget and University Priorities; two undergraduate students designated by the TCU Senate; one graduate student designated by the Graduate Student Council; and ex officio members with voting privileges: the Director of Tisch Library and the **Associate Director for Teaching, Research, and Information Resources, Tisch Library. an Associate Director or designee.** The committee shall study and make recommendations concerning library policies, budget, collections, and services. It shall also assist in the dissemination of information about the library to constituent groups.

**Action required:** Vote on December 2, 2015

**New Business**

**Resolution on the Retirement of Robyn Gittleman**

**Speaker:** Howard Woolf, Director, Experimental College

**Syllabus Disability Access Statement**

**Speakers:** Mark Brimhall-Vargas, Chief Diversity Officer, and Linda Sullivan, Director of Student Accessibility Services

**Summary:** In order to better serve students with disabilities at Tufts, we are asking faculty to add a statement on their syllabi providing information about disability access and services. The statement is optional, but very helpful in connecting students with needed support and resources.

December 2, 2015
Key Issues: Providing students with disabilities information about accessing reasonable accommodations in a classroom.

Action required: We are asking faculty to adopt a statement (already provided on the Student Accessibilities Services website) into their syllabi. Essentially, copy and paste.

Further Information:  http://students.tufts.edu/student-accessibility-services/faculty-members

Proposal for Make-up Days for Campus Closing, for Spring 2016

Speakers: Anne Mahoney, Chair, Educational Policy Committee

Summary: EPC proposes that, if make-up days are required in the spring 2016 term, we do as we did last year. That is, we would use Presidents' Day (15 February), the first day of reading period (3 May), and Patriots' Day (18 April), in that order of preference. The Deans will decide whether make-up days will be used at all, and, if so, what day of the week will be made up. Faculty who teach on that day of the week will then have a choice whether to hold make-up classes or not.

Action required: Faculty vote

Further Information: This is basically what we did last year, except that we didn't start discussing make-up days until we'd already lost a few instructional days, and by the time we could get the faculty to vote, it was already too late to use Presidents' Day. Last year, we lost 6 days to campus closures; if we only lose one or two, we don't necessarily need to schedule a make-up day at all.

EPC will also propose a make-up scheme for future years, in particular for those for which the Academic Calendar has not yet been voted, that reduces the chance of scheduling make-up classes on a holiday. We will bring this before the faculty in the spring.

Discussion of the Inclusive Classroom

Speakers: President Monaco and Provost Harris with Dr. Donna Qualters, Associate Professor Keith Maddox, and Associate Professor Samuel Sommers

Summary: Assuring an inclusive learning environment in the classroom has emerged as an increasingly important priority for our efforts to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the university community. It was recognized as an important area for further progress by the Council on Diversity in its 2013 report and recommendations and in the TALES initiative outlined in the T10 strategic plan, and has been highlighted in recent statements of concerns by Black students. As we look to strengthen inclusion in the classroom, we have the opportunity to build upon important research by members of our faculty.

Key Issues: Diversity and inclusion; pedagogy.

Action required: For information

Discussion of Possible Divestment of Fossil Fuels from the University’s Endowment Funds

Speakers: Paul Joseph, Sociology Department; Henry Jacqz, Undergraduate Student

Summary: Tufts University is already engaged in a variety of ways to reduce its carbon footprint. But we have not yet taken explicit steps to dissociate ourselves from an unsustainable fossil fuel economy. Divestment of fossil fuel from our endowment is a symbolic act that underscores the need for renewable energy sources.

Key Issues: Threat posed by climate change, the range of university responsibilities, use of the university’s endowment.

Action required: None. Possibility of a formal resolution next semester.

Further Information: Please see FAQs on divestment.