

Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Minutes

Senators Present:

Wood is no longer at the university. This change was mentioned by Pres. McCay at a faculty lunch a few weeks ago. There were some questions from senators about the details but the answers are unknown since there has not been an announcement released to the entire campus. Pres. Winkelmann urged all faculty, especially senior faculty, to ask questions of the administration at future town hall meetings.

Sen. Dutta is the new chair of the Welfare committee and Sen. Sandall is the new chair of the Scholarship committee. The TRI committee still has no chair. Sen Dutta spoke to the previous chair, Sen. Walton, who said the focus of the committee had been on two main things -- faculty members' ability to respond to student accusations and the possibility of tenure. Since tenure has been addressed, the committee will follow up on the other issue. Pres. Winkelmann will check in

Winkelmann explained that some are reluctant to identify themselves because of a fear of retribution; in the future the senate can reconsider how to conduct votes, but requiring senators to identify their college and/or attach their name to their vote was not the popular view when it was discussed before the tenure vote.

Pres. Winkelmann asked senators to consider nominations for the new Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. For more information about the responsibilities and structure of the AFTC, please see the document dated August 30, 2018 on the Faculty Senate website:

<https://www.fit.edu/faculty-senate/>

Send your nominations to Pres. Winkelmann and/or Sec. Lelekis in advance of the January meeting when the vote will take place. Self nominations are also welcome.

This spring elections for senators will be held. Senators should serve 3 year terms and should be elected by the faculty in their academic unit. Pres. Winkelmann asked senators to let him know what year they are in their term. [The sign-in sheet was passed around so that senators could write their number down by their name.] Sen. Jensen suggested putting this information in the minutes of the first meeting and Pres. Winkelmann agreed that it can be publically available.

Provost Baloga has asked Pres. Winkelmann to consider revising the membership of the university promotions committee so that smaller colleges have greater representation. According to Dr. Baloga, it is the senate's responsibility to determine the composition of this committee. Pres. Winkelmann suggested that we have a minimum of two representatives for each college on the promotions committee. Sen. Baarmand agreed that the 2-person minimum was an easy solution and should be implemented. Senators received a handout with the current language for the composition, as well as a resolution with the suggestion for changing it (proportional to college faculty number but with a minimum of 2). The vote on this will need to wait until senators have had time to share it with their constituents. A question was raised about the composition of the tenure committee and Sen. Perdigao said that the tenure document says that the promotion committee will become the tenure committee. However, Pres. Winkelmann was not sure if Dr. Baloga intends for the non-tenure track promotions to be handled through the tenure committee or separately. He will find out before we need to vote.

There was debate about the number of members on the committee, the proportion from each college when voting, how often the calibrations are done, and the potential for adding non-voting members. Sen. Jensen asked how the proportion will be determined for COES and if there is a potential that all of the members for that college are all engineering or all science. Pres. Winkelmann explained that there is no official rule to prevent that, but he thinks that there will be proportional representation because that is in the best interest of the faculty and the dean.

