

## **Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**

When: Tuesday, November 1, 2022 3:30pm  
Where: Zoom @ <https://fit.zoom.us/j/95744544218>

**Senators Present:**

the new administration we need to focus on contributing to the work needed for faculty equity adjustment.

3. Scholarship Committee: Senator Nezamoddin Nezamoddini-Kachouie said nothing to report.
4. Excellence Awards Committee: Senator Julie Costopoulos



nominees at the moment: Dr. Nezamoddin Nezamoddini-Kachouie to continue as Chair of Scholarship Committee for another term and Dr. Mehmet Kaya as the next Administrative Policies Committee Chair. Before we hold elections for these, he will give the floor to the current committee chairs. But first he begins by saying that the committee chairs also sit on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee which steers the topics of the Faculty Senate Meetings (in some universities this is called the Steering

according to our resolutions passed in January 2018. It is important also with respect to our loads and in our promotion, and it can easily be included in our load forms or as part of promotion, which also can include being on the committees as members. Some faculty may not be aware of the activities of those committees. Any full-time faculty member is capable of being a Senator, committee chair, and Faculty Senate President. Each committee has to be chaired by a sitting Senator and each committee must have one other sitting Senator, and the other members can be full time faculty that are not Senators.

He then calls on each current committee chair to describe their activities, how many members they have in general, and how much workload is required, how many hours they need to work overall within a semester or a month, etc.

Julie Costopoulos, Chair of the Faculty Excellence Committee, probably heard of us by the awards given every year. We have representation from each college with two representatives from COES. The Fall semester we just do announcing and requesting of applications and being sure that we have funds for part of the award. But we get busy in February. As soon as the applications are received, we safeguard the process by making sure the description, the categories, and the scoring process is safe and fair and equitable across the colleges. Then we all independently

accomplishments within the context of th

It is not a heavy workload and is a really uplifting process and really exciting to see

the lists, and usually the lists are incomplete. We have to go back and forward to make sure that we really get the desired information to start contacting them. It can be frustrating as students can be not responsive and have to try contacting them several times even though they potentially could be given money from the scholarship. That part is pretty disappointing. Overall though it is a rewarding process.

President Tolga Turgut next launches the polls. The voting tally results for election held is below:

**Dr. Nezamoddin Nezamoddini-Kachouie to continue as Chair of Scholarship Committee for another term:**

*Total votes: 28*

Yes: **25**

No: **1**

Abstain: **2**

**Dr. Mehmet Kaya as the next Administrative Policies Committee Chair?**

*Total votes: 26*

Yes: **20**

No: **2**

Abstain: **4**

*AFTC Charter Revision*

confidential issues are discussed in AFTC during its activities which must be respected as confidential. During the October meeting Pres. Turgut got the recommendation from the Senate that he should reach out to the AFTC members and invite them to this

non-compliance issues, then that would be the role of the AFTC. By the way the charter was not entirely followed in the last three years which is one of the reasons why the AFTC members are trying to address those after the experience under their belts.

Julie Costopoulos asks the following question. The AFTC and grievance makes recommendations to upper administration, but that is not the same thing as reporting to?

Tolga Turgut responds that yes in the current charter the AFTC reports to the Senate which is not possible 100% because of confidentiality issues and that is why in practice they have been reporting to the Chief Academic officer, the Provost, and so they are revising it so they report to the Provost. We can suggest that they report to the Provost and informs the Senate as Brian Lail was saying.

Julie Costopoulos responds that the wording suggest that they work for and Academic Officer and the President, whereas making recommendations to or to that effect is different than reporting to mean that they are responsible to the Chief Academic Officer which could look like a conflict of interest.

Nakin Suksawang says I recall that the AFTC was indeed in charge of reviewing all these processes. But even at that time it was debatable if that was the right move. The problem is the AFTC is the last step in the grievance process and it would work on

Tolga Turgut responds that he thinks this is all wording that can be added. This can be suggested as a revision to our AFTC committee.

Tolga Turgut says that a comment from private chat came to his attention and it says that he thinks the Provost does not make decisions on promotion or tenure related issues. These decisions are made in their corresponding committees. So when the AFTC reports to the Provost or President, they would not be reporting to the decision

evaluate the faculty, but the process implemented by the respective tenure and promotion committees.

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Tolga Turgut says that a question came his way, is there a distinction between Standalone Committee and Standing Committee of the Senate? Please elaborate on the former term. He says that in writing the AFTC is not a standing committee of the Senate although it has been acting as such even though not in the charter. It is not a standing committee.

in its charter. Standalone means for the AFTC that on their daily activities they are free to discuss any confidential issues, when it comes to their reporting in their proposed charter, they are proposing they report to the Provost and President.



He was wondering whether it makes sense for the Senate Executive Committee to have one person on the AFTC?

### **New Business**

*Clemente center membership to be free for the full-time faculty:*

brought up at the Board of Trustees meeting, about waving the Clemente center membership fees for full-time faculty. He chose to bring it up as some faculty brought is as an issue to him. The current membership fee is \$185+tax. We are only around 300 full-time faculty and it is a good opportunity to promote good health and for faculty to engage with students as well. Students have that included in their tuition.

Tolga Turgut asks for a motion to adjourn.

Senator Mehmet Kaya responds. Motion to adjourn.

Julie Costopoulos responds. I second the motion.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43pm.

Respectively submitted,

Aaron Welters, Faculty Senate Secretary