



**PHILADELPHIA**  
UNIVERSITY

TO: Faculty, Staff and Administrators  
FROM: Carla Mandell  
Executive Administrative Assistant, Office of the Provost  
RE: December 16, 2014 Faculty Meeting Minutes

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Prof. Howard called the meeting to order on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 12:33 p.m. in the Kanbar Performance Space. The agenda was approved with the updates previously sent out.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the November 18, 2014 Full Faculty Meeting**

Prof. Howard asked for any corrections to the minutes of the November 18, 2014 faculty meeting; no corrections were made, thus, the minutes were approved.

### **Reports of the Provost / Dean of Faculty**

#### **Provost**

**Provost Randy Swearer**

Congratulated those that went up for review this past cycle. Everyone was renewed. Dr. Swearer read the list. Those that went through the teaching portfolio workshops...it made a difference that was noticed. Dr. Swearer announced that Megan Wood was hired for the restructured position of Manager of Faculty Affairs. She will start in January 2015. He thanked everyone involved, including Matt Baker and Valerie Hanson. Additionally, Carla Mandell has taken on the role of Coordinator of Academic Events, which involved Commencement and Convocation.

Dr. Swearer spoke about visits we have had this past semester from Harvard, Politecnico di Milano and Paris Lodron school as well as Napier University in Scotland. These visits were not invited, but the visit was warmly welcomed. Last week, Dr. Swearer attended The Knowledge Conference at Rotman in Toronto. Approximately 200 were in attendance. He then was invited by Roger Martin to attend a smaller group of 10 for the second day to sit at the table with Tim Brown of IDEO, Administrators from Harvard and other universities for a deeper discussion. Dr. Swearer thanks the faculty for Philadelphia University being recognized.

#### **Faculty Voices**

Natalie Nixon shared with Student Experience Committee that there was an important report on WHY about college students who are transitioning out of the foster care system.

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/ed/2014/12/15/370952931/theres-no-place-like-a-dorm-room-for-the-holidays>

Are we aware of how many of our PhilaU students are in this position and may have no place to go over the holiday break? How might we address this reality in our campus community?

Nancy Howard asked the faculty to offer suggestions and this also can impact our international students.

## **Reports of Standing Committee:**

### **Academic Resources**

**Prof. Jeff Ashley**

Jeff Ashley discussed the Research Advocate process. Documentation regarding the process will be published on the website where minutes of the meetings are maintained.

The roles will be to facilitate and nurture research and student engagement. This will be an ongoing process through the Spring pilot timeframe. There will be 3 moderate stipends offered to the faculty taking on this role. If interested, please see your Executive Dean.

### **Special Reports**

None

### **Unfinished business**

#### **Faculty Manual Revision Update**

**Beth Shepard-Rabadam**

Final draft of faculty manual was sent a few weeks ago. Comments are still welcome. A final final draft will be brought for faculty vote at the January Faculty meeting. The evidence documents are separate from the manual. Questions were taken from the audience.

#### **Hallmark Update**

**Prof. Tom Schrand**

The Hallmarks section of the website has been updated. Students will begin to post artifacts. Beginning in January, students will be able to identify their Hallmarks map by major. 20 artifacts will be collected, 8 from the major, the remaining from the general education core. Program Directors are creating these maps. However, it is being asked that everyone familiarize themselves with the Hallmarks. While Tom is on sabbatical, Valerie Hanson will be the key contact for Hallmarks.

### **New Business**

#### **Nexus Abroad**

**Prof. Phil Tiemeyer**

Prof. Tiemeyer presented a Powerpoint presentation on what is Nexus Abroad. Being offered this spring is one CAFE class, one DEC class and SHLA class being run at the same time. This one is designed for freshman. However, other students may apply. 17 freshman have applied and an equal number of upperclassmen. The goal will attract collaborative faculty as well. If you are interested in participating, please see Phil Tiemeyer to get involved. Cultural proficiencies play a key part in being involved in the program.

There will be a cohesive core to bring the 3 disciplines together. Professors design their courses to be linked, by a common theme or a common methodology. For this first group, history will be the core element. It runs for 3 weeks in summer, right after May graduation.

Look for an application in your email later today. Faculty will receive an application for a short course and a separate one for Nexus Abroad. Applications are due on Sunday February 15, 2015. Any questions, please contact Phil Tiemeyer.

This was advertised in the First Year Seminar courses, Writing 1 courses and emailed to Freshman.

#### **Motion – 2/3 Threshold Vote**

**Dr. Nancy Howard**

Dr. Howard gave background history of this vote, which was emailed to the faculty 10 days prior to today's meeting. This is part of the Organization of the Faculty document which is not part of the Faculty Manual. This language was omitted inadvertently when this document was created. There is a motion to add it back in. Motion was made and seconded. It was questioned if we were already following it,

why is a vote needed? It was also addressed that this vote would require 2/3 of the full faculty to vote positively before any change can be made instead of 2/3 of the voting faculty. Right now a non-vote counts as a No vote. An electronic vote will take place based on the simple majority of the faculty that vote.

**Report of the President**

**Dr. Stephen Spinelli**

Dr. Spinelli wants to acknowledge and congratulate the Industrial Design program and faculty for their national ranking. Wished everyone happy holidays.

**Announcements:**

Marion Roydhouse announced that there will be support on writing a faculty research grant on Thursday 12.18. Last week a Stormy Weather workshop was held and both adjunct and full time faculty attended. This will be offered again in January 2015. In February 2015, there will be a Nexus Learning workshop.

Webadvisor is open for grades due by Friday 12.19 at 11:59 pm.

Karen Albert announced there are two new resources available. Global International resources and Political Key to replace the MDdatabase being cancelled by the publisher.

Mike Leonard announced that SDE faculty will have a meeting with the Provost following today's meeting.

Susan Frosten sent an email related to a Teaching Portfolio workshop that will be held for Jr. & Sr. faculty. This will be held two times per year.

Natalie Nixon announced that SD MBA Cohort 1 has graduated. The second cohort will graduate in June. Both will walk in May.

Adjourned at 1:43 pm.