

# **NTC Faculty Meeting Minutes**

*September 18, 2019*

## **In Attendance Voting:**

Liz Abboud, Michele Adams, James Alm, Julie Alvarez, William Brumfield, Robert Connor, Lorelei Cropley, Brian DeMare, Kathryn Edwards, Donald Gaver, Sanda Groome, Douglas Harris, Karissa Haugeberg, Thomas Hebert, T.R. Johnson, Lev Kaplan, Dennis Kehoe, Brent Koplitz, Jana Lipman, Susann Lusnia, Nancy Maveety, Judith Maxwell, Tim McLean, Elizabeth McMahan, Jenny Mercein, Michael J. Moore, Ganapathi Narayanamoorthy, Monica Payne, Amy Pfrimmer, Menaka Philips, Felix Rioja, Chris Rodning, Janet B. Ruscher, Marty Sachs, Mimi Schippers, Russell Schmehl, Laura Schrader, Christine Smith, Eric Smith, Michael Syrimis, Ray Taras, Jeffrey Tasker, Ryder Thornton, Ian Townley, Red Tremmel, Erick Valentine, John Verano, Toni Weiss, Fred Wietfeldt, Justin Wolfe

## **In Attendance Nonvoting:**

Amjad Ayoubi, Joseph Bull, Pierre Conner, Marie Dahleh, Lanie Dornier, Suri Duitch, Kelly Grant, Charvi Greer, Michael Hogg, Ilianna Kwaske, J. Celeste Lay, Casey Love, Rebecca Mark, Vicki Mayer, Sarah Montes, Colette Raphel, Bill Rials, Ralph R. Russo, Lee Skinner, Charlotte Maheu Vail, Beth Wee

## **3:35: Call to order by Dean Skinner**

## **3:36: Approval of the minutes**

Professor McKeown presented the minutes from April 24, 2019. They were approved.

## **3:37: Dean's Report**

Skinner gave dean's report, consisting of the following:

- Personal Introduction to the Faculty
- Presentation of Philosophy and Values
- Scope of Newcomb Tulane College
- Newcomb-Tulane College Structure Wire Diagram
- "Our Students – Class of 2023": Positive trends in Academic Index distribution
- Resources for Faculty Involvement
- List of Standing Committees

## **3:55: Committee on Academic Requirements Report**

Professor Lin (Architecture) presented the report of the Committee on Academic Requirements. A motion to vote on a policy regarding the accommodation of student athletes' travel schedule brought forward from the committee. Discussion followed as summarized.

Concerns raised by faculty: the policy might represent an encroachment on academics by athletics; the policy is broad in nature; it establishes a precedent for a blanket policy on activity-based classes. Greer (Athletics) provided insight from the Athletic Department and stressed that the athletic advising staff is in place to help faculty negotiate these challenges. There was a concern about how to make up missed labs. A faculty member asked for clarification as to whether or not the

policy would afford student athletes alternative deadlines for work due on a day they are traveling. It was pointed out that the motions says faculty “should,” not that faculty “must” accommodate student athlete travel conflicts. Other faculty also stressed that at stake in the proposal is equity for student athletes and that this motion was designed to accommodate the athletes and not exclude them from classes that conflict with their obligations. It was stated that the faculty should have a say in how athletic scheduling directly or indirectly affects Tulane’s academic programming.

The motion to approve the policy passed with five faculty voting against and two abstaining.

#### **4:14 Committee on Academic Integrity Report**

Professor Rodning (Anthropology) presented the committee’s report on Academic Integrity. Of note, the committee recommended that faculty reduce incidence of academic integrity violation by managing testing conditions and also by building the confidence of students. The committee will propose that composition and charge of the honor board should be changed. Proposed changes to be distributed prior to November’s meeting, where they will be discussed and potentially voted upon. Discussion of Honor Board processes followed, with some questions and many observations and personal examples.

#### **4:42 Curriculum Committee Report**

Professor Maxwell (Anthropology) presented the Curriculum Committee report. A motion to approve two majors in the School of Professional Advancement for NTC students was brought forward from the committee.

1. NTC students would be allowed to participate in the new SOPA IT major
2. NTC students would be allowed to participate in SOPA Exercise Science major

The faculty discussed whether or not it would be possible for NTC students to receive an NTC degree while majoring exclusively in SOPA, whether the effects of these changes on NTC and especially the SSE had been studied sufficiently, the issue of online classes and how many students are or should be allowed to take towards an NTC degree, the matter of SOPA faculty composition, accreditation, fiscal ramifications, and potential effects on programs, schools, and departments. At 4:58 McKeown suggested that the faculty either vote, postpone voting, or extend the meeting, Skinner pointed out it was too late to extend the meeting. A vote to vote (or postpone) was called.

4:59 Motion failed and the discussion will be postponed until November.

#### **5:00 Meeting adjourned**