Towson University Retired Faculty Association (TURFA) Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes - December 2, 2016 - Administration Building 333

Attending: Annette Chappell, Martha Siegel, Ron Matlon, Don Forester, David Larkin, Florence Newman, Joe Topping, Peg Benner, Ellie Hofstetter

Absent: Ray Castaldi, Fran Bond, Mary T. Casterline, Hillary Giddings

Meeting called to order by President Chappell at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes of October 21/November 2, 2016 approved.

Membership

- We currently have 69 paid members.

Newsletter Report (Benner)

- The Spring 2017 issue of The Advocate will contain articles about the fall and spring annual events.
- Additional ideas for newsletter content should be sent to Peg Benner.

Scholarship Committee Report (Topping)

- The Scholarship Committee will initially emphasize research grants to TURFA members.
- An application form outlining what projects can be supported will soon be designed.
- Projects can be funded either by using a portion of TURFA revenue and/or by asking the University/Foundation for assistance.
- The Executive Committee asked Joe Topping to meet with the Foundation about the mechanisms the Committee needs to have in place to implement these grants.

Programs and Events Committee (Newman)

- Upcoming is the "Freak Show" theatrical production and post-performance discussion.
- Also, upcoming is a tour of the Peabody Library.
- The following ideas are being considered for the near future:
  - Tour of the Edgar Allen Poe House in January.
  - Tour of the Greenmount Cemetery in March.
- Car-pooling to off-campus sites was discussed.

Report on Meeting with Fisher College Council (Larkin, Topping)

- The Council is interested in TURFA and wants to have ongoing contact with us.
• A suggestion was made to have TURFA contact the campus AAUP representatives to explore matters of mutual interest. (Note: Coincidentally, the President of AAUP joined us briefly at this meeting.)
• It was suggested that TURFA liaisons to Colleges arrange meetings with their own College Councils.

Discussion of the November 14 Executive Committee Meeting with President Schatzel and Provost Chandler as well as Recommendations from Florence Newman’s AROHE Report

• What follows are (in no particular order) the top priorities TURFA will be considering in the near future:
  o Faculty Development Center proposal. Mentoring of faculty from new hires to near retirees will be the key component of the Center. Martha Siegel will be the primary TURFA representative to this group. They will, have monthly Monday meetings through next spring.
  o Emeriti faculty status. Emeritus/emerita should become a faculty rank. This matter should be pursued by TURFA with the University Senate and/or AAUP. Annette Chappell will meet with Kim Schatzel and/or Tim Chandler about how best to proceed with this matter. Accompanying this idea is to keep emeriti faculty in the University catalog and on departmental lists.
  o Getting a TURFA representative as a voting member of the University Senate. The Provost will talk with the Senate President about this matter. Meanwhile, Annette Chappell will stay in touch with both parties to move this idea forward.
  o Conduct a survey of faculty/librarian retirees to create a report of their contributions to the university and community. Florence Newman will contact Sue Barnes from the University of California System to get information about the survey they conducted. We will use that information to prepare and distribute a survey of TURFA retirees.
  o Continue TURFA Executive Committee "Coffee With..." sessions. Periodically invite campus leaders to meet with us. The next session should be with (a) the President of the University Senate to discuss our membership there and (b) University Archives personnel to discuss putting together a living oral history project through interviews with University retirees.

• What follows are (in no particular order) additional matters TURFA will be considering as they arise:
  o The Tiger Way Project. We will wait for the Provost to let us know how TURFA might help increase graduate and international student enrollment at Towson University.
  o The BTU Initiative. We will wait for the Provost to let us know how TURFA might help to promote Baltimore/Towson University partnerships.
  o The Career Development Center for students. We will wait for the Provost to let us know how TURFA might help with this endeavor.
TURFA Space in Enrollment Services

- Progress is being made and it is possible the space will be available early in 2017.
- A swipe card access is being considered.

Spring 2017 Bi-Annual TURFA Event

- Scheduled for mid-June, it will be held in conjunction with the Provost's annual gathering for retirees.
- Annette Chappell will consult with Osher and the Provost in order to find a presenter for the event.
- The TURFA business meeting and election will take place at the end of the event.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Submitted by Ronald J. Matlon, TURFA Secretary