Towson University Retired Faculty Association (TURFA) Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes - November 12, 2015 - Administration Building 310

Attending: Annette Chappell, Ron Matlon, Ray Castaldi, David Larkin, Florence Newman, Peg Benner, Joe Topping, Maggie Reitz, Hillary Giddings

Absent: Don Forester, Fran Bond, Mary Casterline

Meeting called to order by President-Elect Chappell at 2:00 p.m.

Open conversation with Acting Provost Reitz about retired faculty benefits

- Distinctions between benefits given to professor/faculty emeritus and TURFA members:
  - Both get a 10 percent discount at the University store, ID privileges with updated One Cards, shuttle privileges, and library and academic computing access.
  - Professors/faculty emeriti get reduced parking permits while TURFA members get free visitor parking with assigned codes.
  - TURFA members also get reduced ticket prices to cultural and athletic events, free TURFA events, on-campus meeting space, TURFA membership cards, guest privileges at Osher events, and OTS training workshops.
- TURFA members will soon get an e-mail from the parking office. It will contain 5 codes to use any time in visitor parking areas on campus. After those 5 codes are used, TURFA members can request more codes be sent to them.
- The Provost's office will follow up on future possibilities for TURFA member attendance at athletic and cultural events on campus as well as computing access too.
- The Provost's office will include information about TURFA when it sends standardized letters to new retirees.
- There was a discussion of criteria for obtaining emeritus status. The current criteria will be forwarded by the Provost's office to TURFA's Executive Committee for review and discussion at their next meeting. The results of that discussion will be reported back to Maggie Reitz.
- David Larkin suggested that the Provost's Office (and perhaps others) should encourage retired faculty to get and stay involved with Towson University. As a matter of policy, deans and chairs should keep retired faculty in mind in their planning. Maggie Reitz indicated she would promote this idea among the deans at a future meeting.
- Perhaps TURFA Executive Committee members should work closely on the above suggestion with deans in their respective colleges. Further discussion on this matter should occur.

Minutes were approved for the September 2 and October 7 Executive Committee meetings.

Report from Program and Events Committee (F. Newman)

- The last OTS training session had seven people there and a new one is planned for early 2016.
- Reduced price tickets are available for the Delaware/TU game.
- Four people came to the pre-event presentation at Opera Opera.
- Thirteen people took the Texas Quarry tour.
- Around 40 people attended the Van Ummersen presentation.
- Reduced price tickets for TU's "No Child" theatre production are available for December 6.
- Larry Boucher is planning for TURFA members to get tickets for the Drexel/TU basketball game in January.
- Other events for January and February are in the works.
- The TURFA Writing Group met once and 6 people attended.

A discussion took place about when to hold the spring general meeting, election and program for TURFA. On July 23, the Executive Committee decided that this meeting should be held apart from the annual retirees luncheon sponsored by the Provost's Office. However, further discussion of this matter is probably needed at the next Executive Committee meeting. The next annual retiree session for all will be a breakfast session to be held in early June 2016.

Report from the Scholarship Committee (J. Topping)

- The committee, scheduled to meet in December, is now composed of people from five academic departments.
- This group will consider student scholarships/awards as well as grants to retired faculty.

Janet DeLany, Graduate Studies, proposed having TURFA members serve as writing mentors for graduate students. The idea was discussed. The Executive Committee requested that Hillary get more information from J. DeLany before anything could be decided.

Mary and Hillary had a meeting about Sales Force software and its housing of information about retired faculty and professor emeritus members. Hillary reported that there will be a separate database in the future for these retiree distinctions. She will circulate to the Executive Committee a print-out of the information she has so the committee can review it at the next meeting and offer suggested edits. Then, if necessary, David Larkin (perhaps with Ron Matlon's assistance) will go to the University Archives and peruse the University Senate minutes to be sure the database has an accurate list of emeritus members.

Report from the TURFA Newsletter Editor (P. Benning). She is hoping she has everything she needs by the end of December to put together the spring newsletter. She reported on what she is planning for the next issue and requested a guest column from Maggie Reitz.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Submitted by Ron Matlon, TURFA Secretary