

# From the Senate President

*By Michael Sachs, President, Faculty Senate*

I am honored to write this column as President of the Faculty Senate for the 2017-2018 academic year. This past year was an interesting one as President, and it is a privilege to continue in this position for this academic year.

We have a full agenda this academic year, some dictated by current events, some perhaps unexpected. A draft of the RCM review is being considered by the Administration, and hopefully information will be available later this semester. There continues to be some anxiety about what the Pennsylvania State Legislature will do with our budget allocation—as of this writing the folks in Harrisburg are still dithering around and ‘considering their options.’ It would be nice if they ‘did the right thing’ and put in place measures for recurring revenues that will be needed for the future. Washington continues to ‘do the wrong thing’ consistently, as evidenced by the recent DACA decision. The Faculty Senate responded with a letter and recommendations for how to address this egregious decision with our students. Temple’s Administration responded with a letter as well.

The Stadium continues as a project/issue. Negotiations thankfully concluded successfully (subject to a vote) on the adjunct contract between TAUP and the Administration. We have a new Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies (welcome Dan Berman) and a search is under way for a Director of Gen Ed, so more to come there. A Task Force has been put together to review a proposal concerning faculty retirees and their potential continuing role with Temple once they retire. A proposal for a University Ombudsperson is being worked on for presentation to the Administration.

One of my main concerns is still faculty governance. There are faint signs of a reinvigoration of faculty input at the departmental, collegial, and University level. We will continue a conversation on how to reinvigorate faculty governance at Temple University and, as part of this, the role of the Faculty Senate in this process. I welcome your recommendations!

We are also continuing to work on moving from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with our web presence, via a redesigned web site as well as a discussion board, Facebook presence, etc. We will keep you informed as these upgrades take place.

I am excited to note our Leadership Team includes Cornelius Pratt (CMC), with Michael Jackson (STHM) ably filling in for him in the Fall while Cornelius is on sabbatical (THANKS Michael), and Sue Dickey (College of Public Health) continuing as our superlative Secretary. Trish Jones (CMC) continues as our excellent Past-President. We thank Elvis Wagner (COE) for great work this past year as Vice-President.

My e-mail is [msachs@temple.edu](mailto:msachs@temple.edu) I check it almost 24/7—please don’t hesitate to contact me with any thoughts, questions, comments, recommendations, etc. I look forward to serving you as Faculty Senate President this coming year.



Michael Sachs