Preliminary meeting of Franklin Faculty Senate ad hoc subcommittee 3/28/18

All three committee members present: Christopher Pizzino, English (chair); Rielle Navitski, Theatre and Film Studies; Thomas Cerbu, Comparative Literature; no visitors

Items for consideration:
I. Clarification of committee purpose, assessment of central task
   A. Examination of request from Department of Anthropology
      1. Question of Senate purview
         Issue is judged Faculty Senate purview, but scope of authorship of distributed documents needs clarification—who is addressing the Senate?
      2. Question of feasibility of ad hoc committee task
         Provided Senate is prepared to consider giving an opinion on best way for faculty research to serve public good, yes, task is feasible.
   B. If request is judged both within Senate purview and feasible to address, consideration of next steps
      1. Possible preliminary report to Senate at upcoming special session
         Ad hoc committee agrees preliminary report is desirable
      2. Advisability of Senate vote ratifying committee’s existence and purpose
         Ad hoc committee agrees that Senate vote, though not procedurally necessary, is desirable
      3. Possible expansion of committee membership
         Ad hoc committee agreed that expanded membership is desirable if other Senators wish to join.

II. If request is judged both within Senate purview and feasible to address, decisions on basic committee procedures
   A. Data gathering procedures
      1. How best to provide a hearing for parties interested in communicating with the ad hoc committee
         Written and spoken testimony will both be considered; off the record remarks will be taken into account only if they form a data pattern the ad hoc committee deems significant.
      2. How best to investigate other avenues of research
         Ad hoc committee will consider other avenues of research as their relevance seems necessary for the committee’s task.
   B. Priorities for decision making
      1. Necessity of focusing on central questions brought forward by Department of Anthropology
      2. Necessity of understanding how Anthropology’s questions bear on current University research and projects
      3. Necessity of complex view of data