

Academic Freedom, Tenure and Professional Relations and Standards Committee

Minutes

March 27, 2008

Present: Tim Taylor (chair), Chris Stopka, Rich Segel, Jeffrey Harrison, Beverly Roberts, John Henretta, Ken Anusavice, Barbara Wingo (General Counsel's Office), Elizabeth Bolton, Henry Baker, and John Haydn

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

1. The Committee approved the minutes of the October, 2007 meeting.
2. The Chair provided an update on a new grievance that has been filed. The Chair determined that the Committee does not have jurisdiction. In one pending case, a hearing has been held and the Hearing Panel's final report will be filed soon.
3. The Chair provided an update on the Conflict of Interest issue. The Committee's suggestion that the conflict of interest form be included in the Gatorlink password update procedure was forwarded to Rick Yost, Faculty Senate Chair, but no response has been received.
4. The Committee discussed the possibility that grievances might arise out of the SPP procedure and a general discussion of jurisdiction and remedies followed. The Committee would have jurisdiction in such cases only when a violation of academic freedom is alleged. Procedural grievances would be subject to a different grievance process that is not overseen by the Committee.

In cases of tenure, the Committee now deals with issues beyond academic freedom and ethics. However, this broader jurisdiction does not extend beyond tenure cases. In tenure cases, the Committee may recommend additional time before tenure consideration or re-review of the case without procedural errors. The Committee cannot recommend the grant of tenure.

5. Tim Taylor was elected Committee Chair for 2008-9. It was decided that the Chair-elect will be elected at the first fall meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

From: Rick Yost

Sent: Tuesday, September 25, 2007 2:23 PM

To: Taylor, Timothy G

Cc: Murphy, Carol; Keith, Jamie Lewis; Fouke, Janie; Bell, Amelia

Subject: RE: AFTPRS Committee Language

Tim -

Thanks for your email.

I think that it is appropriate for the AFTPRSC to continue to explore where the language should appear and what it should say. Although it connects in part to the faculty-authored course materials issue (as one example of a potential conflict of interest, I think it is more general and therefore better handled separately, I fell.

I went back and looked at the language on our old employment contracts (added in 1995 and used through 2003) - *"A faculty or A&P staff member may not engage in any outside activity which interferes with the full performance of professional responsibilities or other institutional obligations. As of this date (Please check): 1) ___ I have no outside activities to report. 2)___ I have submitted the report(s) to the chair/supervisor or dean/director. 3)___ The reports(s) of the outside activity is (are) attached."* I don't find that language particularly clear, but it does provide another starting point to consider what we might propose. As you state in your email, where such language should appear - in our Semester Faculty Assignment Reports (which at least every faculty member sees once a semester, and which will likely become electronic at some point) or as a new once-a-year statement, or ... - is a key question. I'd suggest that you will want to discuss these questions with folks in the Provost's and General Counsel's offices, since they will be involved in any implementation of a new process. I have therefore copied this to Janie Fouke and Jamie Lewis Keith as a heads up, and to Carol Murphy, since she chairs APC.

I foresee that this would come back to the steering committee, but that it needs some group to review the language and how/where to implement it before it gets to steering, and I'd suggest that AFTPRSC is more appropriate than APC>

Rick