

APPROVED

UNIVERSITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Friday, February 11, 2022

9:30 AM via ZOOM

Members Present: Roberta Trites (non-voting); Chad Buckley, Kevin Edwards, Ron Guidry, Miranda Lin, Melissa Oresky, Bo Park, O. Erin Reitz, Joyce Walker.

Absent: Frank Beck

Minutes

Chad Buckley called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

--Clarified that remaining Spring 2022 meetings will be held by Zoom conferencing.

--Discussion of Faculty Caucus meeting held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. Faculty Caucus approved revised Article IV and Article V in the ASPT policies.

--URC continued to incorporate Senate comments into the ASPT document revision process, starting with Sec. VII.

--Discussion of faculty assignment letters. Considered that faculty and students should know their Fall courses by May 15, but this must remain flexible as situations change. In many cases teaching assignments are set based on a collective departmental spreadsheet used for scheduling, but this cannot be finalized until status of each faculty is known, closer to Fall. Thus assignment letters could better be split into two parts, a proposed teaching assignment linked to course registration openings each semester, and an annual general assignment of roles by August 15. This should not be excessive extra work for Chairs since these teaching assignments are made each semester either way.

--Clarified language in VII.D. Discussed the relevance of faculty reporting their civic engagement and community service activities in year-end reports. Should departments specify what level of job relevance is required? It is complex to determine the job relevance of community activities, and faculty contributions to the community should be encouraged. It was proposed that departments/schools, in their ASPT documents, should provide examples of service activities that would be considered meritorious. This would have to align with Appendix 2, which lists various service activities, and may be expanded in the next revision. Clarified "assigned" to "assigned or elected"

--Clarified language in VII.F, removing the word "no" from "no new additional information."

--Clarified language in VII.G, per Faculty Caucus recommendation.

-- Revisions of Article VIII included strengthening wording on prohibition of evaluating productivity by numeric metrics alone.

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--Revised language regarding faculty recusal in Sec. I.B. Conflict of interest: clarified rationale for why a recusing member should not disclose to the FSC the nature of the conflict, due to privacy issues. Revised to "Faculty shall not state their reasons..." since "shall" denotes a future obligation.

--Based on a request from Senate, URC discussed dismissal procedures for non-union non-tenure-track faculty. These procedures are required to follow protocols outlined in ASPT document. The ASPT definition of Faculty needs to be edited to allow this.

--Discussed issues concerning moving the due date of the annual review letters for tenured vs pretenured faculty. Revised to move deadline to Feb 15 for all D/FSC letters. More time is required to maintain overall quality/accuracy of letters. Checked this relative to the ASPT Calendar.

--URC's next set of revisions have been forwarded to Senate.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 am.