

Approved

University Review Committee

Minutes: April 8, 2022

Members present: Roberta Trites (non-voting), Frank Beck, Chad Buckley, Kevin Edwards, Ron Guidry, Miranda Lin, Melissa Oresky, Bo Park, Erin Reitz

Began 9:30

Moved to approve minutes of Feb. 11, 2022. Reitz moved, Oresky seconded. All in favor; Beck abstained.

Moved to approve minutes of Mar. 25, 2022. Beck moved, Reitz seconded. All in favor; Oresky abstained.

External review letters: URC discussed the results of the Senate voting on the current set of ASPT revisions. Senate amended the requirement for external review letters that was proposed for Article IX, making them optional. Senate passed the rest of the URC's proposed revisions. Trites reported that some assistant professors were in favor of external letters since they can provide independent validation of their promotion case, and that can be valuable to them in the tenure/promotion process. It was noted that the Senate's new amendment opens up the possibility that external letter requirements could be changed after hiring and before tenure, creating significant problems for the affected faculty. The departmental ASPT revision process could even be timed to target individual faculty (positively or negatively), which would be highly inappropriate but within the letter of the new Senate language. Thus we modified the language proposed for Article VIII to preclude this; to be considered at the 4/20/22 Senate meeting. Article IX will likewise need to be revised next year. The problematic nature of having different units with different external review requirements was discussed, and should be further considered by URC, Administration, Senate, and the non-requiring units going forward.

Article VIII language was finalized for Senate consideration.

Article XVII (Appeals) language finalized for Senate consideration. Attempted to clarify the distinction between informal and formal appeal requests, as follows: "A verbal or informal notification to request a formal meeting does not constitute the formal appeal itself. A formal appeal must be submitted in writing to the chair of the DFSC/SFSC or CFSC and a meeting must be held (see Section XVII.C)." We discussed whether the changes in XVII apply to all types of appeals, and language was corrected.

The URC's revision of ASPT Articles is now complete, and the revision of the Appendices will be continued by URC in Fall 2022.

Adjournment: Edwards moved; Beck seconded; adjourned at 10:40 a.m.