

UNIVERSITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 9, 2015

3 p.m., Hovey 209

MINUTES

Members present: Angela Bonnell, Rick Boser, Phil Chidester, Diane Dean (via telephone), Joe Goodman, Doris Houston, Sheryl Jenkins, Sam Catanzaro (non-voting)

Members not present: Bill O'Donnell, David Rubin

Others present: Bruce Stoffel (recorder)

I. Call to order

Chairperson Sheryl Jenkins called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes from the March 26, 2015 meeting

Rick Boser moved, Joe Goodman seconded approval of minutes from the March 26, 2015 meeting as distributed prior to the meeting. The motion carried on voice vote, with six ayes, zero nays, and one abstention.

III. ASPT sub-group reports

A. Sub-group 4

Diane Dean reviewed URC discussions to date regarding sections of the ASPT document reviewed by Sub-Group 4 (Diane Dean and Rick Boser). Dean said it was her impression from prior committee discussions that the only action that needs to be taken with regard to the sections reviewed by Sub-group 4 is to review all dates in the document for accuracy and consistency and to incorporate earlier amendments into the text. Committee members agreed with Dean.

Sam Catanzaro said he will create a master file of changes recommended by the committee and will check dates as he compiles that file.

B. Sub-group 2

Doris Houston asked to defer the Sub-group 2 discussion until the next URC meeting.

IV. New business

Catanzaro informed committee members that he has been contacted by John Baur, Interim Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, regarding input the University Research Council would like to submit to the University Review Committee regarding ASPT policies. The University Research Council has formed a sub-group to prepare a memorandum describing changes the University Research Council recommends to the University Review Committee. Catanzaro said the University Research Council is apparently concerned that some departments might not be regularly reviewing its ASPT standards for consistency with

university ASPT policies and for currency with the disciplines taught by the department. Some University Research Council members have expressed concern that, as a result, quality scholarship might not be recognized in faculty evaluations, which may, in turn, affect promotion and tenure decisions. The University Research Council may also suggest adding to ASPT policies a requirement that departments/ schools regularly review its ASPT standards, including standards related to research. The University Research Council might also suggest revising the list in the appendices of acceptable scholarship activities. Catanzaro said University Research Council recommendations might be received in time for discussion at the next University Review Committee meeting.

Catanzaro updated the committee regarding the disciplinary policy that has been reviewed by the committee at recent meetings. Catanzaro had asked deans, chairpersons, and directors to provide him input regarding the draft policy. He received edits from one person. Catanzaro is reviewing the edits and plans to bring the revised policy back to the committee for a final review.

Catanzaro said he has talked with legal counsel about the change proposed by the committee to in Section XIII.C, a change from passive to active voice, to read “Individuals suspended without pay and subsequently exonerated may seek compensation.” Catanzaro reported that counsel finds the change acceptable from a legal perspective.

Catanzaro reported having also spoken with staff in the Office of Human Resources about whether to retain reference in ASPT policies to the rank of Instructor. Catanzaro’s contact at Human Resources has indicated that the Instructor rank was last used in 2003. It appears that the rank was meant for persons who had completed doctoral study but had not yet completed a dissertation. Such use of the Instructor rank has since ceased. Catanzaro recommended deleting reference to Instructor from the ASPT document. He said he will add that change to his master file.

Boser asked if anyone on campus currently holds the rank of Instructor. Catanzaro responded that no tenure-line faculty member currently holds that rank. He added that there are non-tenure track faculty members with the title Instructional Assistant Professor. Dropping the Instructor rank from the ASPT system should eliminate any confusion between Instructional Assistant Professor and Instructor.

Angela Bonnell asked if deleting references in ASPT policies to the Instructor rank would impact Milner Library faculty hiring. She explained that the library sometimes hires faculty members with a two-year contingency clause, allowing the faculty member two years to complete the second advanced degree required for faculty status in the library. Catanzaro responded that deleting reference to the Instructor rank would not impact such hiring by the library.

Bonnell asked if it is accurate that a faculty member needs four years in a faculty rank before the faculty member may be promoted. Catanzaro responded in the affirmative. He explained that a faculty member must have served at least four years as an associate professor at Illinois State and at least ten years as a college or university faculty member to qualify for promotion to full professor.

Jenkins noted that the committee is scheduled to continue its discussion of ASPT policies at the April 23, 2015, committee meeting. Sub-group 2 is scheduled to discuss findings from its

review. If it has been received by then, the memorandum from the University Research Council regarding its ASPT recommendations will be included on the April 23 agenda as well.

Stoffel reminded committee members that annual CFSC reports and the annual report from the Faculty Review Committee will be available for committee review at its May 7 meeting. The committee also is scheduled to complete its five-year review of CFSC standards from the College of Applied Science and Technology. Houston asked if the committee will be able to complete all those tasks at a one-hour committee meeting. Catanzaro responded that it is possible.

V. Adjournment

Chidester moved, Bonnell seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Dean, Secretary
Bruce Stoffel, Recorder