

Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations and Standards Committee Minutes

October 15, 2013

4:00 p.m.

President's Conference Room, Tigert 226

Present: Barbara Wingo, Sue Alvers, Rich Segal, Sabine Grunwald, Raymond Issa, and Amy Simonne

Rich Segal called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. and the minutes from April 2013 were approved.

Orientation

Barbara Wingo gave a short orientation about the AFTPRS Committee. Basically, the Committee hears certain grievances for out of unit faculty which includes the Health Center, IFAS and Law School. The Faculty Union handles grievances for the in-unit faculty. She explained that examples of the types of grievances that will come before this committee are firings and tenure denials. We haven't had a grievance in a couple years. Sometimes the chair of the committee helps resolve the issue.

Barbara is the committee's legal advisor. Her role is to give advice on procedural matters, not advice on the law. Once the faculty members files charges, the committee chair appoints a three member Inquiry Panel who investigates the validity of the charges and evaluates the evidence presented. The Inquiry Panel issues a report to the chair either to recommend a formal hearing or deny a formal hearing. If the Inquiry Panel recommends a formal hearing, then the case will move to the three member Hearing Panel which holds an administrative hearing. A recommended order from the Hearing Panel will then be sent to the President who makes the final decision.

Ombudsman

The draft proposed ombuds position is in the Provost's office. The Provost plans to distribute the proposal among his staff and then discuss with the President. Due to the Provost and President not in the office, they have not been able to meet to discuss.

Election of Chair

Due to few members attending, the committee was not able to elect a chair for 2013-2014.

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.