

## Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee

April 4, 2012

**Present:** Kris Bartanen, Geoffrey Block, Alva Butcher (chair), Andy Rex, Doug Sackman, and Seth Weinberger

The meeting was convened shortly after 11:00 a.m. in Wyatt 226.

Chair Alva Butcher reported that the Committee has agreed on the wording of the code interpretation and other revisions in the Family and Medical Leave Policy (FMLP). This is designed to make the FMLP more family friendly with regard to delaying evaluations. Alva confirmed she will soon be forwarding to the Faculty Senate the revised FMLP and the code interpretation on Chapter III, section 2. Delaying a Scheduled Evaluation.

The Subcommittee comprised of Geoffrey Block, Douglas Sackman, and Seth Weinberger, summarized its conclusions regarding its charge to review two evaluation forms for Physical Therapy (PT). The Subcommittee considered the full Committee request to combine the two forms into one and concluded that both were needed and should therefore not be combined. The Subcommittee also wanted to call attention to the fact that the numbering was incorrect in one of the forms and to suggest that the wording of Section 1 should be changed to read “promotion of student learning” rather than “evaluation of student learning.” The PSC unanimously approved the two forms, and Doug volunteered to apprise PT of the suggested changes.

The Committee then took stock of the minutes from recent weeks, approved the minutes of February 29, and decided to circulate the most recent drafts of the March 21 and 28 minutes via email for final approval at our next meeting.

Finally, the Committee discussed the English Department Evaluation Criteria. At issue is the interpretation of the *Faculty Code*, Chapter 1, PART B-CATEGORIES OF THE FACULTY, Section 2, lines 44-46 (p. 1), which states that “non-tenure-line faculty members’ roles, rights, and responsibilities are the same as those of tenure-line faculty as described in Chapter 1 of the *Faculty Code* with exceptions as noted in this code.” The PSC questioned whether the wording in the proposed document clearly outlines the responsibilities of Instructors with respect to evaluations. In particular, the PSC questioned why the wording for the evaluation of tenure line faculty versus that for the evaluation of Instructors was not more parallel. This question will be communicated the chair of the English Department. The PSC welcomes an explanation from the English Department, either in writing or in a meeting with the PSC.

The meeting was adjourned about 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Block