

Minutes
University of Puget Sound
Professional Standards Committee
1 April 2013, Wyatt 226

Members present: Kris Bartanen, Doug Cannon, Jennifer Hastings, Pat Krueger, Andreas Madlung, Doug Sackman, Kurt Walls.

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 am.

1. Approval of minutes of 3-25-13

The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Discussion of the Code Amendment in connection with the Research Misconduct Policy

The first reading of the Code Amendment was at the Faculty Meeting of March 25, as presented by Seth Weinberger. Among the questions raised at that meeting, we focused on the issue Bill Haltom raised. Quoting from the draft faculty minutes, that issues is as follows: "Bill Haltom raised the question of whether this code amendment language 'fits' with other parts of the faculty code, specifically the section on grievances (and issues such as the 30 working day limits). Bill Haltom and Seth Weinberger will review the code language, as well as the amendment language, to see how they coincide."

The crux of the issue is as follows: if the Research Misconduct policy were followed (which takes 120 days), would faculty lose the ability to present a grievance, since the code stipulates that "Within (30) working days of the alleged violation, the grievant shall give written notice..." (Ch. VI, Sect. 2 (a)? It was agreed that some additional language to the Code Amendment would be needed to address this issue, and, further, that the best place to include that language would be in Ch. VI, Sect. 2 (a).

The committee felt that something along the lines of the following revision of the second paragraph of Ch. VI, Sect. 2 (a) would address this issue:

"A grievance notice presented after thirty working days of the alleged violation will be considered in the following 2 cases. First, when steps must be taken as required by public law as implemented in university policies. In such an instance, the grievance notice must be given within thirty working days of the date upon which the procedure as stipulated in public law as implement in university policies is concluded. Second, if the grievant demonstrates that he or she did not know, or could not have known, about the alleged violation until a later time. In such an instance, the grievance notice must be given within thirty working days of the date upon which the grievant gained knowledge of the alleged violation."

It was noted that the second reading of the Code Amendment will be at the Faculty Meeting on April 15. Kris agreed to make the Research Misconduct Policy available for faculty to read prior to the meeting (through a link that will be included in the Faculty Meeting agenda). Kris also said that she could prepare a handout for the next meeting that

would include side-by-side language of the current Code and as it would change with the Code Amendment.

3. Additional Business

The committee discussed the remaining items on the PSC's agenda for this term, including the end of the year report, information to be put in next years "buff" document, participation in evaluations, and course assistant guidelines.

Meeting adjourned at 8.34 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Sackman