

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

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

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am.

1. Approval of minutes of 4-1-13

The minutes were approved unanimously.

2. End of Year Report for Faculty Senate

Seth Weinberger will begin to draft the committee's end of year report and will forward a draft to the committee via email prior to discussing it as a group.

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

Jennifer Hastings will represent the PSC committee at the April 15th faculty meeting and provide the second reading of the Code Amendment. She will provide the faculty with a copy of a side by side comparison of the suggested amendment.

Upon close review of the appeal policy on page 10 of the Policy for Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct (Ch. 6, Section H), the committee made two slight changes by adding a comma and a case change. With those changes a motion was made to approve the document. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

There was a short discussion regarding the need to educate faculty members regarding the Research Misconduct Policy. It was decided that the chairs meeting would be the best forum to distribute that information.

4. Discussion of the New Evaluation Addendum for the Position of Professor of Environmental Policy and Decision Making from the Politics and Government Department.

Most of the discussion centered on the two head officers writing a joint letter of evaluation. Further discussion confirmed we were not asked to improve the document but to ensure that its contents were consistent with the code. A motion was made to approve the document. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. Faculty Participation in Evaluation

Faculty Senate charge #1 – Clarify (a) expectations for junior faculty participation in evaluations of departmental colleagues, and (b) if written recommendation is required of junior faculty in a change of status review (promotion, tenure).

After much discussion spread out over this entire academic year, the committee's drafted answer to the Senate's charge was concise. There was a motion to approve the answer to the Senate, it was seconded, and approved. The statement is as follows:

The PSC finds that the Faculty Code does not distinguish a subset of faculty colleagues designated as “junior”. The PSC interprets this to mean participation responsibilities in faculty evaluations are the same for all faculty colleagues.

6. Buff Document

The meeting closed with a brief discussion on possible changes to the so called “buff document” regarding faculty evaluation. Suggestions considered to include online file submission, guidelines for colleague letters, and possible guidelines for personal statements.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 am.

We will not meet on Monday April 15, the day of the faculty meeting, and will return to Wyatt 226 on Monday April 22nd.

Respectfully submitted,
Kurt Walls