

**Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee  
Friday, April 17, 2009**

Present: Kristine Bartanen, Julie Nelson Christoph, Julian Edgoose, Barry Goldstein, Bill Haltom, George Tomlin (Chair), Lisa Fortlouis Wood. (Sigrun Bodine was unwell and thus unable to attend.)

The meeting was convened at 1:04 P.M.

**1. Announcements.**

Chair Tomlin is scheduled to present the PSC final report to the Faculty Senate on May 4.

**2. Approval of minutes**

The minutes for April 10 were approved with one minor correction.

**3. Update on Departmental Guidelines Review: Music**

Subcommittee members Goldstein and Wood have reviewed the proposed procedures and criteria for faculty evaluations in the School of Music and have met with the director to discuss their questions. The School of Music faculty will be meeting next week to discuss some minor revisions to the guidelines and will report back to the PSC subcommittee with a revised document for full PSC consideration.

**4. Update on Charge 11: Violence Prevention Policy**

Subcommittee member Wood has been in contact with John Hickey regarding the policy and will convene a meeting with Christoph, Edgoose, and Hickey before the end of the semester, with hopes that the policy can be revised and made ready for approval at the end of the summer.

**5. Charge 19: Review of proposed policy change to disband the Harassment Response Committee**

The Harassment Response Committee (HRC)—which operates under the auspices of the Campus Policy Prohibiting Harassment—is requesting that their committee be disbanded. The HRC observes substantial overlap in both membership and purpose with the new Bias-Hate Education Response Team (BERT), and it notes the existence of only one request for assistance from the committee in the three years of its existence. The HRC believes its efforts and resources would be better channeled into BERT. Dean Bartanen presented to the PSC the HRC's proposed revision of the "Support Persons" section of the Campus Policy Prohibiting Harassment.

The PSC supports the recommendation that the HRC disband, as well as the proposed revisions to the policy.

## **6. Charge 20: Self-Assessment for Annual Report to Faculty Senate**

The PSC is charged with self-assessing the structure and purpose of the committee as part of its annual report to the Faculty Senate.

Many questions were discussed in relation to this self-assessment. The PSC is charged with diverse tasks—including the routine and emergent, as well as the adjudicative and consultative—all of which require thoughtful attention. The committee reflected on ways that these diverse charges might be more effectively balanced, including potential use of subcommittees, creation of an advisory group of past PSC chairs or members, and achieving greater clarity about the ability of any faculty member—not only the PSC—to draft Faculty Code amendments. The PSC also praised Chair Tomlin for organizing the routine charges in a “matrix” format to prioritize charges so that they can be handled in an efficient and timely manner.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Submitted respectfully,

Julie Nelson Christoph