

**Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee
Friday, October 3, 2008**

Present: Bartanen, Bodine, Christoph, Edgoose, Goldstein, Haltom, Tomlin, Wood

The meeting was called to order at 11:03.

1) Announcements

Wyatt 226 is available for future PSC meetings and is a more convenient location for faculty who teach in Wyatt before or after the PSC meeting. There was some discussion of whether 226 might be too small on occasions when visitors come to meetings or whether it might be more desirable to continue meeting in the library because it is not affiliated with academic departments. The PSC will consider options and will make a decision about its regular meeting place at the next meeting.

2) The minutes of the meeting of September 26 meeting were reviewed.

Because several clarifications were suggested, the minutes will be revised and resubmitted for approval at the meeting of October 10.

In discussing the minutes, committee members reviewed the 2007-08 PSC minutes and recalled that the PSC had determined that unifying “Professional Growth” segments of individual departmental guidelines is not within our purview. The relevant minutes from April 22, 2008 are excerpted here:

Query from Chair Cannon of Faculty Senate about striving for greater consistency of expectation for faculty professional development across departments: Is this a task we should/could take on this year?

The PSC considered the possibility of assessing consistency of expectation for faculty professional development across departments as part of a regular 5-year review of department standards. However, the PSC concluded that its role is to ensure that department guidelines don't contravene the Code, and not to consider consistency across departments. If the Senate believes that the particular circumstances that prompted this query do involve a Code issue, the PSC would welcome a presentation of the issue at a future PSC meeting and would be glad to reconsider its decision.

3) Charge #1- Report of the sub-committee reviewing Science, Technology & Society faculty evaluation guidelines

Bodine and Haltom, the subcommittee reviewing the STS faculty evaluation guidelines reported on their work. The PSC discussed several points at which the guidelines are not clearly in correlation with the Faculty Code or where the guidelines might lead to unintended

effects. Bodine and/or Haltom will meet with STS to have a conversation about the guidelines, conveying questions the committee had about specific points.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25.

Submitted respectfully,

Julie Christoph