

Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee
April 13, 2006

Present: Kris Bartanen, Bill Breitenbach, Karl Fields, Grace Kirchner, Sarah Moore, John Riegsecker, Don Share, Carolyn Weisz (chair)

PSC chair Weisz called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. The minutes of the April 6 meeting were approved.

Weisz announced that no vote was taken at the April 10 faculty meeting on the proposed amendment to Chapter III of the *Faculty Code*.

The PSC spent the remainder of the hour discussing the language proposed by the Diversity Committee for inclusion in the *Faculty Evaluation Criteria & Procedures* ("Buff Document").

Committee members raised a number of issues concerning the possibility of adding this language, its intent, content, and where it might best be included in the Buff Document. A question was raised regarding who the "we" noted in the Diversity Committee's language refers to, and members agreed that it should be prefaced with a brief note from the PSC attributing the Statement to the 2005-06 Diversity Committee.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding where the language best fit in the Buff Document. While the committee expressed universal support for the intent of the diversity language, some members voiced concern that its placement in the Buff Document might lead faculty to misinterpret the language as a *Code*-like standard. It was suggested that perhaps it should be placed at the end of the Buff Document and coupled with other documents, such as the university's Mission Statement and Diversity Statement, that express principles important to the university community.

It was agreed that work would continue on a prefatory paragraph introducing the diversity language (and possibly other statements of principles such as the Mission Statement) and possible revisions to the text of the Diversity Committee's suggested language.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl Fields