

Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee

October 21, 2010

Present: Kris Bartanen, Bill Beardsley, Geoffrey Block, Alva Butcher, Julie Christoph, Bill Haltom (chair), Andy Rex, and Lisa Wood

The meeting convened at 3:05 p.m. in Wyatt 226.

Minutes:

1. The Minutes of October 14 were approved by acclamation.
2. Subcommittee assignments were confirmed, and the PSC decided not to meet as a whole on October 28, in order to meet in subcommittees to work on Senate charges and to review departmental evaluation criteria that have been submitted to the PSC.
3. The PSC reviewed notes on a letter to the Department of Politics and Government regarding the PSC's review of the Department's Criteria for Evaluation, Tenure and Promotion. These notes will be revised slightly and sent to the PSC for further review and then sent to Chair Haltom to be conveyed to P&G.
4. The PSC provided counsel to Dean Bartanen about a question from the Faculty Advancement Committee, regarding when newly approved departmental criteria for evaluation, tenure, and promotion take effect in departmental reviews—whether immediately, at the beginning of the next academic year, or in a phases with a grandfathered set of criteria. After some discussion, the PSC determined that newly approved criteria should take effect at the beginning of the next academic year, largely to avoid these problems with other timeframes:
 - a. An immediate effectiveness date could create situations in which faculty are unsure what the criteria are and might prepare evaluation files under the old criteria and then need to revise quickly to meet new criteria.
 - b. Grandfathered criteria would create procedural complications for all involved in the evaluation process. And because faculty being evaluated would be included in the guideline revision process leading up to the new criteria' approval, there would be enough time to put files into proper order with the new criteria.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Christoph