

Minutes of the Professional Standards Committee

December 3, 2015

Present: Mark Reinitz (Chair), Amy Odegard, Kurt Walls, Garrett Milam, Kris Bartanen, Matt Warning, Jennifer Neighbors

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

The minutes from the November 12, 2015 meeting were approved.

The minutes from the November 19, 2015 meeting were approved.

The committee briefly discussed the response from the Philosophy department justifying their approach to advising in relation to tenure within their evaluation guidelines. Following this discussion it was determined that their existing approach is consistent with the Faculty Code interpretation of this issue. The evaluation guidelines were approved.

The committee discussed the wording of the previously approved suggestion to change university policy regarding the scope of the prohibition of relationships between students and faculty of a sexual or romantic nature. After grammatical edits were agreed upon, discussion turned to the most appropriate adjective in addition to sexual to accurately portray the scope and nature of relationships covered by the proposed ban. After some debate, and consultation with similar policies at other universities, it was agreed that romantic most accurately communicated this breadth.

Once these issues were resolved, the wording of the proposed policy change was approved. The committee will be forwarding the suggested wording and information regarding the committee's approval for changing the existing policy to the Faculty Senate President and the office of the Academic Vice President for consideration, copying the Faculty Senate Liaison to the PSC.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50.

Respectfully submitted.

Garrett Milam