

Professional Affairs Committee 2013-2014 Year-End Report

Members: Brandon Christensen(Chair),Tiffany Parker, Claudia Ruediger, David Powel, Debbie Beard, Julie Weathers,

Summary of Committee Activities:

1. The committee recommended to the Senate and the Senate passed emeriti status bills for 14 retiring faculty representing a total of more than 428 years of service to the University.
2. The committee recommended to the Senate and the Senate passed 4 bills realigning Faculty Handbook provisions into “policy” and “procedures” sections.
3. The committee identified conflicts between the faculty handbook language on student evaluation of instruction and departmental Tenure and Promotion Criteria. Letters were sent to chairs of affected departments.
4. The committee worked with CSTL, IT and the Provost’s office to examine and propose procedures regarding a new online Tenure and Promotion dossier submission process, which resulted in the submission of two bills revising the relevant T and P handbook sections.

Agenda Items for the year:

From Faculty Senate Chair DeStefano

1. Chapter 2, sections H 1-3 regarding termination. NOT addressed. Recommend to next year’s committee
2. Chapter 7 sections A-C regarding affirmative action and non-discrimination. NOT addressed, but the LGBT issue was raised this session in student government
3. Continue to study faculty workload issue in regards to large section classes. Discussed, recommend to next year’s committee
4. Examine departmental Tenure and Promotion Criteria. ADDRESSED. **Recommend** next year’s committee look at merit pay
5. Work with Compensation to consider T and P pay raise amounts. **Recommend** to next year’s committee
6. Online instructor Residency Requirements. **NOT** Addressed
7. Redo Bill 13-A-9 , **ADDRESSED**. Bills passed
8. New Faculty Workload. **NOT** addressed but handled by other committees
9. Mentoring New Faculty. **Addressed** by Chairs forum

Recommended Agenda Items for the 2013-14 year:

- Chapter 2, Sections H 1-3 regarding termination and academic due process

- Chapter 7 particularly sections A-C on Affirmative Action, Sexual Harassment, and Non-Discrimination
- Continue to study faculty workload issue particularly in regards to load-credit for large sections, labs or practicums, and advising.
- Study the issue of Departmental merit criteria, committee structure, and procedures, and their compliance with the Handbook policy. Both for RNTT and TT merit (as we did for T and P criteria this year).
- Follow up on departmental revisions to T and P criteria as required by Senate Bills 14-A-18 and 14-A -19. (ask Deans? Chairs?)
- Work with Compensation Committee to consider T and P pay-raise amounts.
- Study the issue of RNTT faculty who are converting TT contracts and their ability to negotiate for years of service.