

Faculty Senate Rights and Responsibility Committee Report to Faculty Senate, May 2, 2022

Committee Members: Gerald Nachtwey (Chair), John Brent, Charlie Hughes, Elizabeth Underwood, Carolin Walz, Nancy McKenney (ex-officio)

2021-22 IT Committee Charges

- 1. Continue oversight of all policies affecting faculty rights and responsibilities*
- 2. Continue to review request for faculty organizations to have a similar infrastructure to student organizations and develop a procedure for creating such organizations.*
- 3. Coordinate with the Rules Committee to reassess and update your internal procedures.*

1. Continue oversight of all policies affecting faculty rights and responsibilities.

The committee continued to push for revisions to Policy 4.7.4, Faculty Grievances. The full senate voted to approve revisions to the policy made by the committee in the 2020-2021 session, but University Counsel advised that such revisions would have to go through the vetting process of an ad hoc Drafting Committee. Such a committee was never convened by the Executive Committee because of ongoing personnel changes at the Office of University Counsel. The year ended with assurances from their office that personnel would be in place at the beginning of the next academic year to put this process in motion.

At the March meeting of the committee, a point was raised as to whether or not Policy 4.6.4, Promotion and Tenure of Faculty, would have to be revised to reflect the growing prevalence of faculty work on Open Education Resources (OERs). The opinion of the committee was that the existing policy afforded enough discretion to departments and colleges that might choose to give faculty credit towards promotion and/or tenure for work on OERs.

2. Continue to review request for faculty organizations to have a similar infrastructure to student organizations and develop a procedure for creating such organizations.

In preparation for the November 2021 meeting of the committee, Senator Nachtwey reached out to the Executive Committee for clarification on this charge. In response to that inquiry, the Senators Crosby and Kay informed Rights and Responsibilities that the circumstance leading to the creation of this charge had changed and that it was no longer to be pursued.

3. Coordinate with the Rules Committee to reassess and update internal procedures.

Near the end of the Fall semester, Senator Bishop-Ross contacted Rights and Responsibilities about whether any updates to internal procedures were necessary. Senator Bishop-Ross had none to suggest, and committee members were content with current procedures, so no updates were made.