

March 7, 2014

MEMO TO: Academic Senate

FROM: Hank Liese, Sandra Shotwell, and Paul Jewell
Co-Chairs, University RPT Standards Committee (URPTSC)

RE: Annual Report, 2013-2014

Meeting Schedule

The University RPT Standards Committee meeting schedule for the 2013-2014 academic year is as follows:

<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
September 20	January 17
October 25	February 21 (cancelled)
November 15	March 21
December 13	April 28
	May 9 (if necessary)

Departmental/College RPT Reviews

The following departmental RPT statements have come to the URPTSC this academic year and are currently under review:

1. Modern Dance
2. Theatre
3. Film & Media Arts
4. Mining Engineering
5. Libraries

Statements in the drafting stage that may come to the URPTSC this year are:

1. School of Medicine
2. Languages and Literature

The URPTSC continues to work on the following statements, with the goal of having all approved by the beginning of Fall Semester, 2014:

1. Art & Art History
2. Parks, Recreation, & Tourism
3. English
4. Math
5. Biology
6. Metallurgical Engineering

Additional URPTSC Discussion Items in 2013-2014

To date, URPTSC meeting agendas have included the following additional discussion items:

- *San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment.*
- Presentation on interdisciplinary research/scholarship by Robert Newman and Keith Bartholomew.
- The expanding role of the URPTSC, which will become the Senate Faculty Review Standards Committee and will review, in addition to tenure-line RPT statements, career-line appointment, retention, and promotion statements, as well Tenured Faculty Review (TFR) statements (see below).
- Proposed changes to U. Policy 6-002 (*The Academic Senate*).
- Update on the work of the new Career-line & Adjunct Faculty Task Force.
- Continuing development of an RPT template for use by departments/colleges.

Senate Faculty Review Standards Committee

Of all the Senate committees, the URPTSC is likely undergoing the most changes in regard to its roles and responsibilities. The most important changes were summarized as follows by Robert Flores in a January 17, 2014 memo to the URPTSC and the Career-line & Adjunct Faculty Task Force:

- **Expanding functions** to include not only the existing role of acting on behalf of the Senate to review and approve departmental RPT Statements (especially describing standards and procedures for tenure reviews), but also two new roles, on behalf of the Senate reviewing and approving Statements of Standards and Procedures developed by departments/colleges for **reviews of Career-line faculty** and any non-faculty instructional personnel who teach courses, and Statements for **reviews of Tenured Faculty**.

In the discussions for this second set of changes, the two Senior Vice Presidents, the Standards Committee [URPTSC], and the Executive Committee have worked out basic aspects of an arrangement for this committee and the Vice Presidents to jointly share responsibility for reviewing and approving the contents of the Statements which govern reviews of Career-line and Tenured faculty (responsibilities which under Policies 2-005 and 6-310 currently rest only with the VP—without any role for a committee representing the Senate). Revising the 6-002 description of the Committee's functions is the first step in codifying the new shared-joint approval arrangement (and approval of this proposal for 6-002 specifically includes a charge to proceed with a second step, preparing a proposal to revise Policies 6-303, 6-310, and 2-005 to fully codify that sharing arrangement).

- **Expanding membership** to include six Career-line faculty members for the added responsibilities regarding review processes for Career-line faculty, which brings total membership to 23 faculty. Also authorizing flexible structuring into **sub-committees when appropriate** for workload circumstances.

- **Lengthening terms of members**, so each will serve a **four-year term** and can be eligible for nomination and election to a **second consecutive term**, whereas current Policy restricts each member to a single three-year term (consecutive terms prohibited). Current members have agreed these changes are needed because this committee's responsibilities require in-depth knowledge and skills that come only with the experience gained through longer service.