

To: Academic Senate
From: Carleton DeTar, Chair RPT Standards Committee
Re: Annual Report 2008/2009
Date: July 31, 2009

The University RPT Standards Committee with assistance from Associate Academic Vice President Susan Olson and her representative Robert Flores, met once monthly from Sept 2008 to May 2009 and completed the following tasks:

1. Pursuant to a request from the Academic Senate Executive Committee, and following discussion extending over two academic years, the URPTSC recommended some substantive revisions to the RPT standards section of U Policy 6-303 and some minor revisions to 6-302 and 6-305. The recommendations were enacted by the Academic Senate in March 2009 with minor revisions taking effect July 1, 2009 and the substantive revisions, on July 1, 2010.

The new policy requires more clarity in specifying the role that external grants play in a tenure decision. Some RPT documents may need small revisions as a consequence. The committee offered to do a quick assessment of RPT statements from any department or college that wished to have one. Several departments provided their statements for this review. The committee sent its comments for all of them.

2. The committee reviewed RPT statements from the following departments and colleges with the status indicated
 - a. Architecture (returned with comments to the department)
 - b. Educational Leadership and Policy (review on hold awaiting a new departmental chair.)
 - c. Libraries (review in progress)
 - d. Mathematics (returned with comments to the department)
 - e. School of Music (returned with comments to the department)
 - f. College of Nursing (returned with comments, revised, review in progress)
 - g. College of Pharmacy (review of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology returned to the college with comments. Reviews of the remaining departments on hold pending revision of the first departmental document.)
 - h. Psychology (returned with comments to the department)
 - i. Sociology (returned with comments to the department)
3. A subcommittee was formed and asked to begin the process of reviewing college appointment, retention, and promotion documents for auxiliary faculty members. This is a formidable task that breaks new ground for the University. Three members from the auxiliary faculty ranks at large were added to this subcommittee. This subcommittee began with a consideration of broader questions of the status of auxiliary faculty members that will undoubtedly need to be taken up by a campus task force.

4. Procedural matters:
 - a. To assist departments and colleges in the revision of RPT documents, the committee is distributing its checklist to all who request it. It has been posted on the Academic Senate web site.
 - b. The committee developed procedures for an expedited review of discrete changes in an RPT document. This was used to allow the College of Nursing to change its pretenure review schedule in advance of major revisions of its document.