

Senate ad hoc Committee to Investigate NTS Faculty Issues
Minutes May 12, 2015

Committee members: Irene Frieze [Psychology, TS faculty], Carey Balban [Provost's Office liaison], Stephen Ferber [Office of Human Resources liaison], Don Bialostosky [English, TS], Helen Cahalane [Social Work, NTS], Bill Gentz [Univ Library System], Sue Skledar [Pharmacy, NTS], Jay Sukits [Business, NTS], Cindy Tananis [Education, NTS], Seth Weinberg [Dental Medicine, TS], Frank Wilson [Greensburg, Sociology, NTS].

All present except Bill Gentz.

1. April 1 meeting minutes were approved.
2. NTS issues that should apply across campus:
 - a. We began by discussing the recommendation on professional development below. As we looked at the specific proposal, there was a sense that instead of selecting a small number of issues such as this one, we should instead make a very general statement such as that below. This would be followed by a list of examples of ways this might be done. Committee members will further refine this idea through e-mail discussion. Seth's specific proposal was tabled.
 - b. General guidelines for providing emeritus status for NTS faculty. **Sue** proposed some specific wording that would change the current Faculty Handbook regarding emeritus status for NTS faculty. We were unclear what the status of this issue was in the University bylaws. Sue and Carey will discuss this further and bring something back at our next meeting.
 - c. Guarantee of academic freedom for NTS faculty. Do we want to propose anything? We did not discuss this, but it might be included as an example under the general statement described below.
3. Job titles. As Steve reported, these tend to differ across units, both in terms of the titles used and the way the titles are defined. Some titles are unique to particular schools.
4. Proposal for new ad hoc committee? This was tabled until our next meeting.
5. Plans for future meetings? Given complexities in travel plans this summer, we will try to schedule a final meeting early in the fall semester. We will also schedule an informal meeting at the Faculty Club bar this summer.

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Proposed recommendation:

NTS faculty members should have access to departmental funds in support of professional development activities. All faculty members benefit from partaking in activities that facilitate their development as academicians. Funding for such activities is often critical (e.g., travel to professional conferences). In schools where funds are explicitly allocated to departments to support faculty members' professional development activities, steps should be taken to ensure that

NTS faculty members have the same access and opportunities as their tenure-stream colleagues. The process for allocating funds should be fair and transparent. [From Seth]

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Proposed general statement: *All full-time faculty should enjoy institutional support and recognition appropriate to their faculty roles and responsibilities.*