Utah State University

Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee

Minutes

17 April 2014

Meeting convened at 10:30 am room 152, Center for Persons with Disabilities. In attendance: Bryce Fifield (Chair), Kathy Chudoba (vice chair), John Stevens, Peter Adler, Grant Cardon, Bruce Duerden, Cathy Bullock, Becky Thoms, Kurt Becker, Kathy Riggs, Anthony Lott, Foster Agblevor.

Minutes from previous meeting will be distributed by Kathy Chudoba and reviewed at next meeting.

Old Business

The committee had no old business.

Grievances

Dr. Fifield reported that the formal grievance filed by a faculty member regarding the non-renewal of his appointment has been completed. The formal panel hearing was completed last week and the final draft of the hearing panel’s report was being circulated for signatures and was going to be delivered to President Albrecht shortly. The AFT Committee had a considerable discussion about the formal hearing. There were several procedural decisions that helped move the hearing along including having a strict agenda and applying time limits to the opening remarks by the grievant and the respondents. These are strategies that future grievance panels may wish to employ.

Both Dr. Fifield and Dr. Kurt Becker (the panel chair) expressed appreciation to the AFT members who served on the hearing panel. They also expressed appreciation for the professionalism and courtesy shown during the prehearing conference and the formal hearing.

At this time, there are no grievances before the AFT committee.

New Business

Elections for new committee officers were held. John Stevens (Senate representative for Science) was elected chair and Cathy Bullock (College Representative for CHASS) was elected vice chair. Both will begin their terms July 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryce Fifield, Ph.D.

AFT Committee Chair.