

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
(Final; Action)

SP.23.08 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.2 – Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

BACKGROUND

The proposed revision would designate the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure (AF) as the committee specified by the Senate to consult with the Chancellor on procedures for cases involving severe sanctions other than dismissal for cause for members of the faculty under Article IX, Section 6 of the *Statutes*. These changes would also better delineate the elements of part 2.a and separate hearing committee categories into a new section, part 2.c.

RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the approval of the following revisions to the *Bylaws*. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

1 **REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS*, PART D.2 – Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure**

2 **2. Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure**

3 a. Duties

4 The Committee ~~shall~~:

5 1. Shall serve as an authorized group to safeguard and ensure

6 a. the academic freedom of the tenure system and non-tenure system faculty, as well

7 as other members of the academic staff, and

8 b. the tenure status of the tenure system faculty, and

9 c. to assure that unit governance is in accordance with the *Statutes* and unit bylaws;

10 2. The Committee shall conduct hearings in cases involving dismissal of faculty, as

11 provided in the *Statutes*, Article X;

12 3. Shall serve, as provided in Article IX, Section 6 of the *Statutes*, as the committee

13 specified by the Senate to consult with the Chancellor on procedures for cases involving

14 severe sanctions other than dismissal for cause for members of the faculty;

15 a. Procedures shall include, at a minimum, consultation with the Committee on the
16 determination that cause exists to initiate proceedings that might result in the
17 imposition of serious sanctions, and

18 b. Conduct hearings in such cases;

19 4. ~~m~~May investigate instances of possible infringement of academic freedom, ~~and~~ hear
20 cases involving allegations of such infringement, and ~~may~~ make such recommendations
21 to the Chancellor and reports to the Senate as are appropriate; and

22 5. ~~The Committee m~~May investigate and make recommendations regarding allegations of
23 violations of the role of tenure and non-tenure system faculty in governance as specified
24 in the *Statutes* and unit bylaws, while respecting the autonomy of the individual units,
25 and report to the Chancellor and the Senate if appropriate changes are not made. ~~The~~
26 ~~Committee will respect the autonomy of individual units when making any~~
27 ~~recommendations regarding governance.~~

28

29 b. Membership

30 The Committee shall consist of:

31 1. Seven tenure system faculty members whose administrative duties are below the
32 level of deans and directors, with no two members from any one college, school,
33 institute, or similar unit, ~~and~~;

34 2. ~~o~~One non-tenure system faculty member;

35 3. One academic professional member; and

36 4. Three students, of whom at least one shall be an undergraduate and at least one
37 shall be a graduate or professional student.

38

39 c. Acting as a hearing committee on a case for:

40 1. Tenure system faculty member

41 When the Committee is called to serve as a hearing committee under Article X,
42 Section 1(e) or Section 2 of the *Statutes* on a case involving a tenure system faculty
43 member, the non-tenure system faculty member, the academic professional

44 member, and student members shall not participate in its activities or deliberations
45 and shall not be counted as Committee members for determining the quorum.

46 2. Non-tenure system faculty member

47 When the Committee is called to serve as a hearing committee under Article IX,
48 Section 12 or Article X, Section 2(d) of the *Statutes* on a case involving a non-tenure
49 system faculty member, the academic professional member and the student
50 members shall not participate in its activities or deliberations and shall not be
51 counted as Committee members for determining the quorum.

52 3. Other academic staff member

53 When the Committee is called to serve as a hearing committee under Article IX,
54 Section 12 or Article X, Section 2(d) of the *Statutes* on a case involving another
55 member of the academic staff, as described in the *Statutes* under Article IX, Section
56 4, the student members shall not participate in its activities or deliberations and shall
57 not be counted as Committee members for determining the quorum.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES

David Dalpiaz, Chair
H. George Friedman
Shawn Gilmore
Michael Grossman
Michael Han
Kyle Johnson
William Maher
Megan Pickens
Jessica Mette, *ex officio*
Sharon Reynolds, *ex officio*
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*