

**Professional Standards Committee Minutes
November 26, 1996**

Present: G. Block, W.. Breitenbach (Chair), C. Hale, D. Potts, J. Riegsecker,
T. Taranovski, L. Wood

After discussing and approving the minutes of 19 November the Committee considered three issues of Code interpretation. In each case the PSC referred to the Faculty Code, Chapter I, Part F, Section 1 (pp. 5-6) and was primarily concerned with whether their interpretations were "of significant merit" to require "a formal written interpretation which shall be delivered to the Faculty Senate for inclusion within the Senate minutes."

1) Concerning classroom visitations

The PSC reaffirmed its motion of 15 October on this issue and concluded that its interpretation was not "of significant merit."

2) The issue of change in status and appeal procedures for full professor five-year evaluation

The PSC approved the following interpretation of the Faculty Code (subject to the verification of citations), an interpretation which it considered "of significant merit" and thus an interpretation to be forwarded to the Faculty Senate.

"The Professional Standards Committee finds that five-year evaluations for full professors do not represent a promotion as defined by the Faculty Code (Chapter II, Part B, Sections 1-4), and that, therefore, any recommendation or action of the Faculty Advancement Committee in regard to the individual being evaluated (Chapter III, Section 5d and 5f) does not represent "altering the status of the evaluated faculty member's appointment" as specified in Chapter III, Section 6. Accordingly, the full professor being evaluated is not entitled to the appeals procedures as specified in Chapter III, Sections 6, 7, and 8, except in the case when the Faculty Advancement Committee's recommendation is 'negative' and involves an 'unsatisfactory evaluation,' in which case the Code's provisions for "dismissal" of a tenured faculty member may be invoked (see Chapter III, Sections 5d and 5e, Chapter IV, Section 7a, and Chapter V, Section 1, Section 2a (1), and Section 3a) and normal appeals procedures are to be followed (Chapter V, Section 3a (3)).

3) The relationship of the Code to the salary scale.

The PSC concluded that the Faculty Code is silent on this issue. Consequently, the Committee declined to issue an interpretation.

The Committee then discussed the draft letter to department chairs on classroom visitation.

The meeting adjourned shortly before 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Geoffrey Block