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**Utah State University
Academic Freedom and Tenure (AFT) Committee**

Minutes for 21 November 2014
1:00 P.M. ANSC (Animal Science) room 119

[Technical issue with dial-in equipment was not resolved until the meeting time was nearly over, so no dial-in participation was possible.]

Old Business

- Provost's proposed code changes
 - Committee thanked for feedback
- Discussion on providing the reason for non-renewal in the notice of non-renewal
 - After good discussion, Committee voted to support proposed changes.
 - Next step is taking these changes to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for possible discussion at January Faculty Senate meeting.

New Business

- Proposed code changes regarding teaching documentation
 - Committee fully supported the idea to raise the profile of mentoring and to clearly establish its role under the umbrella of teaching.
 - After good discussion, Committee recommended two changes to proposal:
 - Modify "inside" to "inside and outside" to broadly cover the actual range of student mentoring done by faculty.
 - Remove "but is not limited to", as this phrase is unnecessary and appears for some assistant to associate promotions in 405.2.2(1) and 405.5.2(1), but not for other assistant to associate promotions in 405.10.1(1).
- Other items from committee
 - In the previously discussed (and hopefully forthcoming) booklet for grievance panel chairs and potential grievants, we should include the process visualizations (from Appendix 1 of 9/19/14 AFT agenda, for example), after correcting some typos.
 - A question was conveyed (from a faculty member not on AFT) about the "advisory" aspect of a faculty member's "tenure advisory committee" (TAC) – why have administrators been discouraging TACs from advising the faculty member in the tenure process (including binder preparation)? After some discussion, committee felt that since in current faculty code the role of the TAC is to make recommendations to the department head or supervisor (regarding annual renewal and the final award of tenure), the "advisory" aspect is toward the department head, not toward the faculty member.