

2016-2017 Year-End Committee Report Form

Committee: Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility

Chair: Jason Laker

Chair-Elect for 2017-2018:

TBD Pending election of College of Ed Rep to BAFPR and selection of member (by the Board) to serve as Chair.

Number of Meeting held:

7

(Please include phone/zip/email if available)

Items of Business Completed 2016/2017

1. Planned and Convened an SJSU Academic Freedom Forum in the MLK
2. Completed three investigations of referrals from Student Fairness Committee (two H&A, one ENG), issued findings, and ensured final case dispositions were achieved.
3. Collected materials about BAFPRs at other CSU campuses for use in revising S99-9

(Note: As Spring meetings consistently focused on the Academic Freedom Forum, no additional minutes were created).

Unfinished Business Items from 2016/2017

1. Revising S99-9 per referral from Professional Standards Committee (Primary constraint involves achieving a mutual agreement with the Administration relating to role and authority of BAFPR in situations when faculty members' Academic Freedom is violated and/or when faculty breach their Professional Responsibility.
2. Filling vacancies in the following Colleges: ASA, BUS, EDU, SCI, General Unit & selecting a Chair from among elected members. (Former Chair will provide files to new Chair)
3. Review & Discuss procedures (with SJSU Administration & Concerted Activities Committee) for facility management (e.g. lighting, space availability) and/or deployment of SJPD and other security personnel, in order to ensure both safety and lawful expression.

New Business Items for 2017/2018

1. Planning and convening 2017-18 Academic Freedom Forum
2. Promotion and education re: BAFPR role and resources
3. Create a website with resource materials pertaining to Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility.

Please return to the Office of the Academic Senate (ADM 176/0024) by May 31, 2017.

Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility

9/1/16

Minutes

Sweeney 423; 12:30-1:30pm

Welcome & Introductions

Present: Blackmer, Guenter, Laker, Okamoto, Osland

Minute Taker - Laker

Old Business

- A. Referral by Senator Kenneth Peters to review S99-9 "Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility" and possibly replace in view of changes since its inception.
 1. BAFPR will conduct this work during 2016-17 in consultation with appropriate stakeholders and submit revisions/replacements to Senate for consideration.
 - a. Nicole will work on collecting benchmark policies from other universities.
 - b. Asbjorn will facilitate the policy revision process and will meet with stakeholders to consult their viewpoints and obtain resource materials.
 2. Academic Freedom Forum-BAFPR's mandate (S99-8) includes holding workshops and forums as necessary to educate the SJSU community about academic freedom and professional responsibility.
 - a. Members agreed that we must plan in earnest to hold this event in Spring, 2017
 3. Academic Freedom Climate Survey?
 - a. John Briggs in Institutional Effectiveness and Analytics can be contacted for copies and findings of the various surveys around climate at SJSU.
 - b. This topic to be discussed later (perhaps in association with #2 above).

New Business

- A. Vacancies (Colleges of Applied Science and Arts, Social Science, and Science). Laker sent an email to the Senate office asking that they issue a call for nominations for election to BAFPR. (Membership: Nine members, one full-time tenured full professor from each of the Colleges and one from the Unit 3 General Unit membership, elected by the faculty of their respective College or Unit for staggered terms of four years.)
- B. Meeting Schedule for 2016-17-9/29; 10/27; 11/17; 12/8; Spring tbd following member recruitment.
- C. Minute Taker Schedule-9/29 Okamoto; 10/27 Blackmer; 11/17 Guenter; 12/8 Osland
- D. FIRE report on SJSU-Asbjorn Osland shared information about FIRE's critiques of some expression policies at SJSU to inform discussion about policy revisions.
- E. Adjournment

Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility

9/29/16

Minutes

Sweeney 423; 12:30-1:30 pm

Present: Blackmer, Guenter, Laker, Okamoto, Osland

1. A. Osland has consulted with Shannon Bros and Annette Nellen about potential revisions to S99-9 "Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility". He has upcoming meetings scheduled with Elna Green and Ken Peters.
2. N. Okamoto emailed links to policy statements at a number of other universities. One form of accountability that some universities employ is a requirement that the Provost respond within a certain number of day either affirming or not affirming the board's recommendations. He/She must have specific reasons cited for not affirming any recommendation. We may consider including the option for the board to appeal any recommendations that are not affirmed.
3. We will hold an academic freedom forum in the spring. At our next meeting we will discuss in more detail. S. Guenter can ask E. Green and K. Lau about potential funding. Other possible funding sources are the Provost's office and CFA.
4. We discussed progress on two referrals. N. Okamoto will check to make sure that the course grade was change for the engineering student, per the agreement with instructor.

Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility

10/27/16

Minutes

Sweeney 423; 12:30-1:30 pm

Present: Blackmer, Guenter, Laker, Okamoto, Osland

1. The Board discussed the important need to get vacancies on the Board filled, and possible contacts in targeted colleges to consult for more successful achievement of this goal. Might speak to Ng for possible COSS leads, Anagnos for tips in COE.
2. The Board discussed the Academic Forum it plans to hold in the spring.
 - a) a date and venue was agreed upon and the site confirmed: Wed. April 12, 12:00 – 1:30 pm in MLK Library 225.
 - b) possible themes were discussed, including Social Media, Trigger Warnings, Faculty Rights, Student Academic Freedom, Title IX, Censorship, (per Ken-discussion re: status of lecturers, and what is tenure for?)
 - c) possible speakers and panel combinations were discussed, these included Henry Reichman, Rosalinda Quintanar, Sue Pak or Jonathan Karpf, with topics like polarization, safety, microaggressions
 - d) the group came to consensus around a possible plan to use Ken Peter (history of Acad Freedom at SJSU), and Kathleen (Lau) Wong-trigger warnings (Ken and Kathleen),
 - e) Blackmer will follow up with Wong (Lau) about possible archives display to have in library in conjunction with our forum in spring.
3. The Board had updates on Referral by Senator Kenneth Peters to review S99-9 “Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility” and possibly replace in view of changes since its inception.
 - a) Osland will speak to new university lawyer J. Bailey and work to come up with flow chart of how University Administration relates to us, the liaison process, how things are sent to us
 - b) once rough draft of this flow chart is completed, Laker will set up o meeting with J. Bailey to discuss it
 - c) ultimately, we need to define what sort of teeth this Board review will have: If we find something, make a ruling, as stewards of social convention, and we recommend an action, what will the Administration do about it? If naught from the Administration, then a MoU with CFA and/or Academic Senate about our power in rulings.
 - d) no benchmarking updates at this time.

Adjournment.