

# **Academic Policy Committee The Interim Committee Report**

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#### Overview

Charge #1 - "The APC shall review written as well as customary workload policies and practices for full-time faculty (T/TT, non TT, and interdisciplinary) at every college/school across the university. The APC shall provide a document that summarizes these policies and practices by November 2016."

- The APC collected workload policies from full-time faculty workload policies from many units/colleges and found the following:
  - ✓ There is considerable variability in how units define workload practices
  - ✓ Some of the units base teaching loads on research activity
  - ✓ Some documents describe ambiguous policies

#### Overview

- The APC collected workload policies from full-time faculty workload policies from many units/colleges and found the following:
  - ✓ Some policies are not fully described in a single, accessible, document
  - ✓ Some policies are not easily and publically available to faculty
  - ✓ Guidelines for non-tenure track faculty are not included in the policies
  - ✓ Documents do not consistently describe mechanisms to be used by faculty members to resolve workload disputes
  - ✓ There are inconsistencies between college and unit policies.

- Reviewed the 2004 Workload Policy approved by the Faculty Senate
  - The policy was never incorporated into the Faculty Handbook
  - The policy is 12 years old
- The Academic Policy Committee recommends learning from and building upon the best current practices in units across the University
- The Academic Policy Committee recommends that a new policy be adopted
- Our recommendation includes using a Checklist, based on our review of all current workload policies, that will allow a unit's policy documents to be evaluated and assessed on a number of aspects, including completeness and consistency

- 1. A workload policy for full time faculty positions should include definitions of teaching, research/scholarship/creative activities, and service.
- A workload policy should emphasize equity of total workload, rather than equity in one or two components of the workload.
- 1. Each unit should have one comprehensive workload policy document. It is expected that workload will vary across types of appointments and units.

- 4. A workload policy document should, at minimum, have five key sections:
  - a) define workload and how it reflects the goals/aspirations of the unit
  - a) describe the different types of appointments and expectations of each type of appointment in terms of teaching, research, and service
  - b) identify criteria by which workloads might be modified
  - a) specify frequency of workload policy review
  - a) describe how and where the workload document is made accessible

- 5. For units with one or more faculty members with joint appointments in different units, the document should contain, at minimum, an additional section.
- 6. A workload policy document for each unit should be electronically available to all full-time faculty members across the University.
- 7. The full time faculty of the unit must approve the unit's workload policy.
- 8. The annual workload of each full time faculty member in the unit must be accessible for any full-time unit member to review.
- 9. The workload policy must include a clear, published, appeal process to address and resolve any concerns with an individual's workload in the unit.
- 10. The workload policy document must include a completed form labeled "Checklist for Unit Workload Policy Documents."

# **Summary of APC Interim Report**

- We have provided a draft set of full-time faculty workload policy recommendations
- We have developed a draft checklist to help college/unit administration develop/implement clear and consistent workload policies
- Our recommendations allow for the diversity in workload mixes across different colleges/units
- We look forward to the feedback of the Faculty Senate, to be integrated in our final recommendation
- We will work with the Faculty Handbook update committee to insure that our future resolution will be integrated into the handbook