EPUS Committee Report December 2016

The status and feedback form for the <u>Regent Laws and Policies Review 2016-2017</u> can be found at <u>https://www.cu.edu/regents/rlpreview</u>. All faculty are encouraged to review the proposed revisions to the Regent Laws and Policies and provide feedback to the review committees throughout the year.

From the website: "On November 6, 2015 the Regents passed a resolution to undertake a formal review of all Regent Laws and Policies. A steering committee is in the process of this review. Below are links to the current Laws and Policies under review, a justification of the action recommended and a draft of any recommended changes. Interested parties are encourage to provide feedback on the form linked at the top of this page."

EPUS submitted the following Comments on Proposed Revisions to Article 4 of Regents' Laws and Related Policy (Policy 4):

- Concerns have been expressed about the **process** being used to vet these important changes to the Laws of the Regents which govern our existence as faculty members.
  - While a process has been created of getting feedback from people who respond to a web site, the Regents and/or Administration have chosen not to provide a red-lined copy of the changes.
  - It is very difficult without this to know if new concepts are being introduced or if long standing concepts of protection are being dropped.
  - Without the usual red-lined documentation, there is concern about our ability to track the revisions of these documents.
  - Getting feedback from a website may be useful, it is not an appropriate substitute for being able to clearly track the changes.
- Regarding the revisions to article 4, overall the committee has one concern, with a few questions, regarding the changes.
  - This is a major change, but all the main points from the old version appear to have made it into the new version
  - The changes appear to implement the directives of the policies review letter (i.e., policies should include elaborations of regent laws, but no more).
  - The new document provides a better focus on the powers and responsibilities of the Board of Regents.
  - There are specific references to some responsibilities that did not appear in the original version (e.g., termination of faculty in conjunction with discontinuance of academic programs), but it is implied these are addressed in detail in other documents, in particular Section 5, which was not part of this review. Once we have a chance to review the changes to Section 5, other concerns or questions may be raised.
  - There were questions/concerns raised regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph of section 4.A.1 in the policy draft that states "Subject to specific Board of Regents requirements, voting rights of college and school faculty *shall be defined by its tenured and tenure track faculty.*" (italicized emphasis is mine)
    - Does this mean full time *non-tenure track faculty* can have voting rights only if the tenured and tenure track faculty opt for it to be so in their college or school?
    - This isn't preventing NTTF from having voting rights altogether, correct?

What happens in large colleges with many departments that may have different views on that topic?

EPUS Committee member Norah Mazel shared UCCS policy 200-017 (Mentoring of Pre-Tenure Faculty) with the Non-Tenure Track Faculty committee and then shared NTTF committee feedback with the review committee.

EPUS Committee member Sandy Barry-Lowe served on the review committee for UCCS policy 200-005 (Winterim and Spring Break). The revisions to that policy will be reviewed again by EPUS when the revised policy is submitted to the campus for the 30-day comment period.

Submitted

Andrea Hutchins EPUS Chair 2016-2017