

2017

Annual Report

Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Status of the Faculty

1. Members of CAFPS during 2016-2017

B. Gillian Turgeon (Chair, SIPS, CALS)

Kimberly O'Brien (CHE)

Ritchie Patterson (Physics, A&S)

Charles Seyler (Elec & Comp Eng)

Paul Soloway (Nutritional Science, CALS)

Tracy Stokol (Pop Med & Diag Sci, VET)

Bruce Van Dover (Eng)

Diane Burton (ILR)

Michael Scanlon (SIPS, CALS)

Gabriel Kaufman (undergraduate student)

Anna Waymack (graduate student, A&S)

Charles Van Loan (Dean of Faculty, ex officio)

Chris Schaffer (Associate Dean of Faculty, ex officio)

2. Activity during 2016-2017

The committee met four times:

a. On Oct. 17, 2016. BGT met with CVL and CS to discuss revisiting GPSA Resolution 7 regarding Supervisor Student Relationships to help advise the Dean of the Faculty's response to the GPSA.

b. On Nov. 7, 2016. Full committee met (Discussion led by Dean of Faculty)  
Discussed undergrad Student Assembly Resolution 57 '*Towards a more Inclusive learning Experience*', submitted by Black Students United and the Student Assembly. The SA argued that all employees, academic or otherwise, should receive training in diversity issues and that this be tied to payroll and evaluations.

Committee members asked what policies were already in place i.e., does Resolution 57 fall under existing university policies, what is the hierarchy of responsibility, what should we consider, and what do we recommend?

Documents of interest:

Resolution 57

Resolution 57 Appendix

Committee members asked if surveys were available addressing concerns raised in Resolution 57 ( e.g., Pulse)? Could we get the original data?

We discussed ways to make policies highly accessible and easily visible to all University members, from faculty to undergrads. Among the ideas were introducing policies at the beginning of all classes, when faculty were hired, using theater sessions to highlight bias, incentives, and having annual conversations etc.

c. On April 13, 2017. Dean of Faculty Van Loan, Associate Dean of Faculty Schaffer and CAFPS Chair Turgeon met with GPSA students to discuss the revised draft of GPSA Resolution 14 '*Consensual Relationships Policy Revisited.*'

Discussed the frustrations of the GPSA that a revised Romantic Policy had not moved forward. Discussed the idea of having the GPSA present their resolution/policy desires to the faculty senate in Fall 2017.

Perhaps have an iclicker vote of faculty?

CVL reminded us of the Climate report (all Universities and Cornell specific).s

As in (b) the policy should be more widely publicized and disseminated than is presently the case. It should be sent directly to each entering graduate student by the graduate school dean and to each new faculty member by the college dean. Faculty should be reminded of the policy on a regular basis by their deans, and should receive a reminder when signing on to be a chair or minor member of a graduate student's committee.

Point person- someone outside of faculty?

d. On May 4, 2017. Full committee met (Discussion led by Dean of Faculty).

Discussed the GPSA resolution 14 '*Consensual Relationships Policy Revisited*' which was passed on May 1. CVL assembled a webpage with related material to help us chart a path forward:

<http://theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/news/campus-climate/graduate-and-professional-student-assembly-initiatives/>

Anna Waymack, the GPSA sponsor, and Nate Stetson, also from the GPSA joined us.