

University Senate Annual Committee Report Academic Year 2023-2024

Section I

Name of Committee: Governance Grievance Committee

Submitted by: H. L. T. Quan, (Associate Professor, School of Social Transformation).

Date Submitted: April 17, 2024

Membership Roster:

Chair: H. L. T. Quan

Members: JP Hyatt, Wendy Williams, Tricia Redeker-Hepner, Vincent Waldron, Andrea

Pittman, Naomi Jackson, Mike Tueller, Hugh Barnaby, Rong Pan

Overview Narrative:

During 2023-24 Academic year, the Grievance Clearinghouse Committee reviewed three (3) cases for potential assignments to the Governance Grievance Committee (GCC). One (1) case was dismissed due to lack of jurisdiction. Another case was referred to the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure. One (1) case was assigned to the GGC, and was later dismissed after careful consideration, with both Grievant and Respondent given opportunities to submit and respond to follow-up inquiries concerning the nature of the grievance. The GGC Chair, in consultation with University Senate outside Counsel, found that 1) the Grievant failed to state an issue within the GGC's jurisdiction; and 2), no relief was sought that would be within the committee's jurisdiction.

Section II

Request for Consultations and/or topics reviewed by the committee and outcomes (topics reviewed by the committee decided not to act/review should be listed here with, no action taken):

None

Section III

Request for Consultations and/or topics that were not started or remain unfinished and need to be carried over to the next academic year.

One (1) case deemed lacking in jurisdiction is currently undergoing a performance review appeal as well as a review by the OURR. Should the Grievant be dissatisfied with either or both outcomes, they have the option to again purse the grievance process.

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Section IV

Recommendations to the Senate or Final Comments

The case recommended to this committee is a good example of the importance and seriousness of GGC's work on behalf of faculty at the University. Even though the case was dismissed prior to receiving a full GGC panel review, the deliberation was substantial – involving several rounds of correspondence and allowing both parties to discuss their positions and disputes. It is also important to note that the assistance provided by Senate staff, including outside Counsel, was essential to GGC's timely and due deliberation of the grievance. Such assistance was key to mitigating the steep learning curve for incoming Chairs.