UNIVERSITY COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
2016-17

COMMITTEE NAME: University Committee on Faculty Tenure

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Michael Dease (Chair), Gale Strasburg, Edward Watts, James Wiggins, Serena Carpenter, Carl Falk, Charles Petty, Leonard Fleck, Rita Edozie, John Reifenberg, Kendra Cheruvelil, Jay Strader, Sue Dunn, Margaret Kingry, John Aerni-Flessner, Francisco Villarruel, Dalen Agnew, Joshua Barton

Committee Function:
The University Committee on Faculty Tenure (UCFT) (based on section 4.7 of the Bylaws for Academic Governance)

- Shall advise the Provost on the formal and procedural rules for the award and revocation of tenure and on policies relating to tenure, and shall make recommendations to the Faculty Senate on such rules and on policies.
- Shall hear and act on all cases for exceptions to the rules of tenure and its decisions on the matters shall be binding on the administration and on the faculty member.
- In addition, the role of the UCFT on the interpretation of the rules of tenure is determined by Principle Seven of the Operating Principles of the Tenure System (see Faculty Handbook).

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS:

1) The committee began a discussion regarding conditions that qualify for an automatic extension of the tenure clock (related to childbirth/adoption), expanding upon work completed by the committee last year. The discussion centered on expanding the policy to account for multiple births/adoption (i.e. twins), allowing for multi-year extensions based upon the birth/adoption event. MSU’s current policy contains language that allows a faculty member to request additional years for the committee’s consideration. There was general consensus among the committee to leave the policy as currently written and not to make changes at this time.

2) The committee began a discussion regarding recruiting, retaining, and rewarding exceptional faculty

3) The committee reviewed the history of extension requests reviewed/approved by the UCFT for the timeframe of 2006-2015.

4) To date, the UCFT committee reviewed 4 personnel matters in the fall and 1 personnel matter in the spring.