

BFA Faculty Affairs Committee Report 2017-18

Here is a brief summary of FAC meetings and other activities:

September 14 (FAC meeting): Short organizational meeting. Reviewed issues to be discussed this year, most significantly the revisions of Regent Laws Article 5.

September 28 (FAC meeting): Discussed revisions to Article 5, a divestment (from fossil fuels) resolution, and a sensitive personnel matter.

October 11 (meeting): Chair of the FAC, along with chairs of ITFAC and AAC, and Bob Ferry and Lynne Howard, met with Mike Lightner to discuss revisions to Article 5.

October 18 (FAC meeting): Discussed revisions to Article 5. Began process of drafting suggestions.

October 25 (FAC meeting): Continued discussion of Article 5 and drafting suggestions.

October 25-30: Continued to discuss and draft Article 5 suggestions by email. FAC chair presented FAC suggestions to BFA Excomm October 30.

October 30-November 2: FAC chair added explanations of FAC suggestions, in consultation with FAC by email. FAC presented suggestions to BFA Assembly November 2.

November 15 (FAC meeting): Visited by a faculty member to discuss a delicate personnel issue. Made final revisions to FAC suggestions for Article 5.

November 16: FAC chair submitted final (for this round) version of FAC suggestions for Article 5 revisions.

December 14-January 24: Began process of reviewing first draft revision of Article 5 by email.

January 24 (FAC meeting): Discussed first revisions to Article 5, and began drafting FAC response.

January 29: Chair of FAC presented FAC concerns regarding to Article 5 revisions to Excomm.

January 31 (meeting): Chair of the FAC, along with chairs of ITFAC and AAC, and Bob Ferry and Lynne Howard, met with Mike Lightner to discuss revisions to Article 5. Chair of FAC presented concerns of FAC regarding revisions to grounds for dismissal.

January 31 (FAC meeting): Continued discussion of Article 5 revisions, in particular the “insubordination” clause, and the need for a revival of the Silver and Gold.

January 31-February 1: Chairs of FAC, ITFAC, and AAC collaborated on a joint statement of BFA concern about Article 5 revisions, which was presented to the BFA Assembly February 1.

February 1-28: Continued discussion of Article 5 revisions with FAC and Mike Lightner by email.

March 3-14: Began review of 2nd draft of Article 5 revisions by email.

March 14 (FAC meeting): Discussed 2nd draft of Article 5 revisions, and began drafting FAC response.

March 19: Chair of FAC presented some of FAC’s initial concerns regarding 2nd draft of Article 5 revisions to Mike Lightner at BFA Excomm.

March 21 (FAC meeting): Continued discussion of 2nd draft of Article 5 revisions. Focused on what seems to be a diminution of the authority of system-wide P&T Committee.

April 5: Presented FAC and P&T concerns to BFA Assembly regarding diminished role of P&T Committee.

April 25 (FAC meeting): Discussed PAC 12 statements on Academic Freedom and Free Speech. Began drafting FAC suggestions.

May 2 (FAC meeting): Continued discussion of PAC 12 Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech statements. Finalized FAC’s suggested revisions.

May 8 (FAC meeting): Met with a faculty member to discuss a delicate and disturbing issue of academic freedom.