

Meeting of the Villanova University Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee

Thursday, May 18, 2023, 12:00PM – 1:00PM, Zoom

Minutes

Present Thursday: Theodoros Arapis, Aronte Bennett, Cheryl Carleton, Joe Drury, Ann Juliano, Michelle Kelly, Amanda Knecht (chair), Jennifer Ross

Invited Guest: Alice Dailey

The committee met via Zoom and conducted the following business:

I. Tenure and Promotion Committee Changes Updates:

- Alice is going to talk to the Council of Deans to see if there are departments who are heavily reliant on letters from students in their promotion cases. If not, we can ask to disallow such letters from the files. If there are such departments, then she likes our suggestion of having a university wide policy for how to solicit such things like with our current external letters.
- Alice explained in more detail what is going on with the request to not allow instructors to be on the college and university CNT promotion committees. Her suggested wording would still allow people without terminal degrees, just no one at the level of instructor. So any Professor of Practice, Clinical Professor, Teaching Professor, Research Professor, etc. could serve as long as they are not called “Instructor

II. ULC Handbook update:

- We cannot have anything in the Faculty Handbook that dictates what nonfaculty members must do. So, anything involving UNIT is marked out. They added a section that refers the reader to the Classroom Lecture Capture policy for UNIT: <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/unit/policies/other/ClassLec.html>
- There was push back on the section where we say that faculty will not be punished for opting out of recordings. They wanted to leave that there b/c they don't know what might happen in the future.
- We were informed that while we own the content of the recordings, the university owns the actual recording. OLC (office of legal counsel) has suggested we add language from the IP policy to remind faculty of this:
“Creators of reusable teaching and classroom materials for Villanova courses, including, without limitation, the design of the course, videos, class notes and syllabi, curriculum guides, presentations, problem sets, exercise solutions, laboratory manuals, etc., whether online or in hardcopy, shall own these materials unless they are subject to a prior agreement governing their ownership. In all cases such materials shall be subject to a license to the University, which will

include broad non-exclusive world- wide, royalty-free, perpetual, and irrevocable rights to use, display, copy, distribute, modify and prepare derivative works of such materials for the ordinary course of its teaching, research, scholarship, service, and administrative functions. Notwithstanding this license, the University will not re-use recordings of faculty teaching without their permission except in cases when a faculty member is unexpectedly unable to perform any current or planned University obligations.”

- We also need to make sure we only use the word “must” when we are ok with such a term resulting in a faculty member being sanctioned for breaking the “must” rule. It also seems like the OLC does not like us to use the word “rights.”

To Do:

- Send out a poll to vote on disallowing instructors from serving on the college and university R&T committees.
- Keep pushing for Opt-In for ULC.