

2014 Annual Report
Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Status of the Faculty:

1. Members of CAFPS during its active period of 2013-2014

Elizabeth Adkins-Regan (Chair, A&S)
Sandra Greene (A&S)
Pat Johnson (CALs)
Ron Kline (Eng)
Suzanne Mettler (A&S)
Steve Morgan (A&S)
Peter Stein (A&S)
Susan Suarez (Vet)
Sharon Tennyson (HumEc)
Joseph Burns (ex officio) (Eng)
Michael Fontaine (ex officio) (A&S)

2. Activity during 2013-2014

The committee's activity began in the spring semester in response to a request from Dean Burns to consider and render an opinion and recommendation about proposals to allow two new faculty titles: Professor of the Practice and Research Professor. The committee met three times (March 4, 13, and 28) to discuss the relevant documents. Documents included, among others, the two proposals, the Clinical Professor enabling legislation upon which the Professor of the Practice proposal was based, and list of other top universities already using the titles. At these meetings the committee also interviewed Senior Vice-Provost Siliciano, who drafted the proposals, and faculty with views both pro and con. After due deliberation the committee felt comfortable with the proposal to amend the existing Clinical Professor legislation to allow the use, at a unit's option, of the Professor of the Practice title as an alternate designation. The committee chair brought the proposal to the April 9 Faculty Senate meeting as a resolution that was voted on and passed.

A subsequent committee meeting on May 8 was devoted to the Research Professor title. Siliciano visited the committee to answer questions and receive suggestions for preparing the enabling legislation. The committee will resume consideration of the Research Professor title early in the fall semester; no decision or recommendation has yet been reached.