

2015 Annual Report
Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Status of the Faculty

1. Members of CAFPS during 2014-2015

Elizabeth Adkins-Regan (Chair, A&S)
Ron Kline (Eng and A&S)
Kimberly O'Brien (HumEc)
David Ruppert (Eng and IS)
Charles Seyler (Eng)
Peter Stein (A&S)
Tracy Stokol (Vet)
Sharon Tennyson (HumEc)
Bruce Van Dover (Eng)
Diana Li (undergraduate, ILR)
Joseph Burns (ex officio)
Michael Fontaine (ex officio)

2. Activity during 2014-2015

The committee met on September 30, 2014 with John Siliciano to continue discussing the proposal for a Research Professor title. The committee requested that Siliciano provide (a) additional information about the college deans' reasons for needing such a title and (b) a fully developed proposal in the form of draft enabling legislation that would incorporate the committee's suggestions. Due to delays caused by developments in the higher administration (search for new President, departure of Provost), the materials were not ready until the spring semester. The committee met, again with Siliciano attending, on April 23, 2015. Following discussion and questions, the committee felt the proposal should go forward to the Faculty Senate once a few minor revisions were made to the enabling legislation. The revised proposal was then presented by committee members, discussed and voted on at the May 13, 2015 meeting of the Faculty Senate, where it passed.

CAFPS took up one additional agenda item at its April 23, 2015 meeting, a draft resolution on romantic and sexual relationships between students and faculty. A prior version had been discussed by CAFPS in 2012. The committee had several suggestions for modifications and the discussion benefitted from input from the new undergraduate member.