

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate

FROM: Cigdem Gurgur, Chair
Executive Committee

DATE: 09/20/2024

SUBJ: SEA 202 Intellectual Diversity Complaint Advisory Review Board

WHEREAS, Senate Enrolled Act 202 requires (art. 39.5, ch. 2, sections 4.(a)(1) and (3)) that each state educational institution shall:

- “establish a procedure that allows both students and employees to submit complaints that a faculty member or person [with whom the institution contracts to teach] is not meeting the criteria [listed below],” and
- “refer complaints submitted under subdivision (1) to appropriate human resource professionals and supervisors for consideration in employee reviews and tenure and promotion decisions;” and

WHEREAS, the Purdue University Vice President for Ethics and Compliance has issued “Operating Procedures for Complaints Related to Intellectual Diversity” that state:

“Students, faculty, and staff of the University may file a complaint when they believe a faculty member, lecturer, teaching assistant, or other employee or individual assigned teaching responsibilities has not:

1. Fostered a culture of free inquiry, free expression, and intellectual diversity;
2. Exposed students to scholarly works from a variety of political or ideological frameworks within and applicable to the given academic discipline;
3. Refrained from subjecting students to views and opinions concerning matters not related to the discipline or assigned course of instruction; or
4. Adequately performed their academic duties and obligations.

Written complaints may be filed with Human Resources for the campus where the named employee works.” and

WHEREAS, the local implementation of the Operating Procedures was delegated to Purdue University Fort Wayne; and

WHEREAS, the Provost, the Associate Vice-Chancellor of Human Resources, and the Faculty Chairs have met, discussed, and agree on the attached proposal; and

WHEREAS, the proposal was communicated to Faculty and Staff at “town hall” meetings with an opportunity for discussion and feedback;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Senate adopts the attached proposal as an interim policy, which, if adopted, will become permanent when included to the next amendment of the Bylaws; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Senators remind their college and school administrators to update their internal Faculty governance documents to align with the proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Senate allows the following deviations from the written proposal for the AY 2024–25, when the Intellectual Diversity Complaint Advisory Review Board must be populated and elections be held for the first time:

- (1) the Nominations and Elections Committee will solicit, as quickly as possible, names of volunteers from each major unit from the rank of tenured associate librarian or professor, professor or librarian;
- (2) the Chancellor and the Faculty Chairs will select seven (7) members to serve on the Advisory Review Board from the panel of volunteers, each from a different major unit: one regular and one alternate member serving an initial term of one year each, a second regular and the second alternate member serving a term of two-years each, the third regular member serving a full three-year term, and two additional members serving one year to help with crafting policies;
- (3) during the election and nomination cycle in the spring of 2025, major units will submit names according to the proposal, but appointments will be made only for the two positions that will become vacant as per (2) above. Terms are renewable, so members who leave the Advisory Review Board can run again for a membership.

ATTACHMENT: PROPOSAL

New text to be added under “IV. OTHER COMMITTEES”

D. Intellectual Diversity Complaint Advisory Review Board

1. **Membership.** The Intellectual Diversity Complaint Advisory Review Board shall consist of five (5) members, namely,
 - I.A.1.1. five (5) Faculty. The following provisions shall apply to the five members of the Faculty:
 - I.A.1.1.1. Each member must be from the rank of tenured associate librarian or professor, professor or librarian, and from a different major unit; three (3) shall be regular members, and the remaining two (2) shall be alternate members.
 - I.A.1.1.2. They shall be selected to staggered, three-year terms by the Chancellor and the Chair, Chair-elect, and Past Chair of the Fort Wayne Senate.
 - I.A.1.1.3. They shall be selected from a panel of nominees composed of at least one nominee from the Faculty of each major unit, elected according to procedures adopted by the unit’s Faculty and incorporated into the documents that define the protocols of faculty governance within the unit.
 - I.A.1.1.4. Vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the term through a process similar to that which selects campus committee members.
2. **Special Regulations.** A regular member of the Advisory Review Board will recuse themselves and be replaced by an alternate member if there is some form of conflict of interest connecting the complainant or the respondent and a member of the Advisory Review Board.
3. **Responsibilities.** The Advisory Review Board shall advise the Purdue Fort Wayne “Intellectual Diversity Complaint Review Committee” in fulfilling the responsibilities and following the procedures established in the “Operating Procedures for Complaints Related to Intellectual Diversity” as maintained by the Purdue University Office for Ethics and Compliance.