

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(Final; Information)

FAC.23.01 2022-2023 Annual Report of the Faculty Advisory Committee

The Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) is established by the University *Statutes*, Article II, Section 4. The FAC offers added recourse for the consideration of grievances and furnishes a channel for direct and concerted communication between the faculty and the administrative officers of the University. Any faculty member, current or retired, may voice a suggestion for the good of the University or request consultation with the FAC through any of its members. The FAC prefers to investigate a suggestion or grievance only after other University avenues of appeal (typically at the unit and college level) have been exhausted. All contacts with the FAC remain entirely confidential.

The FAC meets twice each month, year-round, to consider issues brought to its attention by faculty and administrators. Committee meetings follow the requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, with all personnel matters discussed confidentially in closed session. The FAC also meets periodically with the Provost to discuss specific cases and broader faculty issues. The Committee reports annually to the Chancellor, the President, the Senate, and the faculty. The members of the FAC are charged first and foremost with the best interests of the University. The Committee advocates for fairness and equity in the application of campus policy and procedures as they apply to faculty. We encourage faculty to considering nominating themselves or a colleague to serve on the FAC: any tenured member of the faculty is eligible to serve on the Committee, except those who hold an administrative appointment.

FAC members for AY2022-2023 were Jeffrey Eric Jenkins (FAA), Randy Ewoldt (ENG), Amit Kramer (LER), Frances "Ming" Kuo (ACES), Charles "Stretch" Ledford (MEDIA), and Amanda Ciafone (MEDIA). Lilyan Levant provided administrative support.

At the September 6, 2022 meeting, Amanda Ciafone was elected chair for the 2022-2023 academic year. This report attempts to synthesize the committee's work during this past year. Any errors are unintentional and mine alone.

As chair, please let me acknowledge the committed work of the FAC during AY22-23. The FAC was short-staffed and yet members provided responsive, thoughtful guidance to faculty who sought the committee's assistance. Thank you to the FAC members this year and to Lilyan Levant for her dedicated work on behalf of the committee and university.

Consultations and Cases

In order to maintain confidentiality, this report will speak of the committee's work in general terms. During AY22-23 the FAC responded to 7 requests from faculty for assistance. In most cases we met with individual faculty members more than once to discuss their concerns and grievances and help them find the appropriate channels for their issues. Requests for consultations came from faculty in Applied Health Sciences, Business, Engineering, Fine and Applied Arts, LAS and Library. Of the requests for consultation from faculty, 1 was voted by the committee to case status, which is ongoing and approaching closure. A report from this case will be forthcoming.

The FAC also serves an advisory function to faculty, campus units, and administrative officers. The FAC advised the newly constituted University of Illinois-Chicago Faculty Advisory Committee on its mandate, roles, and procedures. The University *Statutes* and Senate Procedures Committee sought input on revision to the University *Statutes*. The FAC met with the Acting Executive Vice Provost for Academic Affairs to discuss matters arising this year, including evaluation of faculty work during COVID years. As chair, Amanda Ciafone spoke at the annual campus workshop on promotion and tenure sponsored by the AAUP to inform faculty of the FAC's consultative and investigative role and hopefully raise interest in future service on the committee.

In May 2023 two members were re-elected after sabbatical periods away from the committee, Craig Koslofsky (LAS) and Carol Tilley (ISchool). Their terms began on August 15, 2023.

Further information on the Faculty Advisory Committee, including our Articles of Procedure and contact information, can be found at www.fac.illinois.edu.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Ciafone
Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee