THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure
Annual Report, 2015-2016

CAFT Members

Dr. Jennifer Jenkins, Chair English SBS
Dr. Jeffrey Milem, Vice Chair Educational Policy Studies & Practice COE
Dr. Matthew Abraham English SBS
Dr. Nafees Ahmad Immunobiology COM
Dr. Dalila Ayoun French and Italian COH
Dr. Michael Brescia Arizona State Museum NON
Dr. Sonia Colina Spanish and Portuguese COH
Dr. Walter Klimecki Pharmacology & Toxicology PHARM
Dr. Fabio Lanza History SBS
Dr. Dante Lauretta Lunar & Planetary Laboratory COS
Dr. Jerzy Rozenblit Electrical & Computer Engineering ENGR
Dr. S. Patricia Stock Entomology CALS
Dr. Lynda Zwinger English SBS

Mission Statement

The Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure shall have jurisdiction to make inquiry and to conduct hearings in two general areas contained in ABOR 6-201 and 6-301, namely: in regard to those matters contained in the Conditions of Service dealing with the contractual employment relationship between the General Faculty member and the University /Board of Regents; and in regard to any internal matters relating to grievances against or by any member of the General Faculty. The committee shall consider the protection of academic freedom and tenure as a principal obligation. (Certain preliminary steps for dismissal situations are described in Chapters 3 and 4 of the University Handbook for Appointed Personnel and Sections 6-201 and 6-301 of the University Handbook for Appointed Personnel and Sections 6-201 and 6-301 of the Arizona Board of Regents Policy Manual.)
Hearings
The Committee received one petition in the 2015-16 academic year:

- A complaint by a tenured faculty member of violation of conflict of interest, gender bias, and violation of academic freedom by a department head and associate head was filed with the Grievance Clearinghouse Committee (GCC) in April 2015. The hearing schedule for matters unrelated to retention is confined to the academic year, so the matter was forwarded by the 2014-15 GCC to the 2015-2016 CAFT Chair. The grievant was advised by the GCC and Chair of CAFT to present the matters of conflict of interest and gender bias to the Office of Institutional Equity. A CAFT hearing was held in October 2015 on the matter of violation of academic freedom related to teaching assignments.

The Chair is grateful for the time and effort of CAFT members, all of whom volunteer for service on this important faculty rights committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer L. Jenkins, MLIS, Ph.D., Chair
Chair, CAFT (2014-2015)