Rights and Responsibilities of University of California Faculty

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Topics to be covered

- Faculty Code of Conduct and Discipline Process
  - Senate Faculty (APM 015/016)
  - Non-Senate Faculty (APM 015/150 and MOU)

- Conflict of Commitment and Outside Professional Activities of Faculty Members (APM 025)
The Faculty Code of Conduct applies to all Faculty as defined by APM 110.

Exception: Represented Non-Senate Faculty (Unit 18 Lecturers) have similar language in their MOU.

The Procedures for Implementing Discipline will vary for different types of faculty.
- Senate Faculty – Administration of Discipline is governed by APM 016
- Non-Senate Faculty (Non-Represented) – Administration of Discipline is governed by APM 150
- Non-Senate Faculty (Represented) – Administration of Discipline is governed by MOU
The Faculty Code of Conduct – Types of Unacceptable Conduct

- The Faculty Code of Conduct is organized around five broad topics:
  1. Teaching and Students
  2. Scholarship
  3. The University
  4. Colleagues
  5. The Community

- For each topic, the Code of Conduct lists “Ethical Principals” and “Types of Unacceptable Faculty Conduct”
Faculty Code of Conduct: Teaching and Students

- Types of Unacceptable Conduct in relation to Teaching and Students:
  - Failure to meet the responsibilities of instruction.
  - Harassment or Discrimination against Students, including for Arbitrary or Personal Reasons.
  - Use of the Position or Powers of a faculty member to coerce the judgment or conscience of a student, or to cause harm for arbitrary or personal reasons.
  - Entering into a romantic or sexual relationship with any student for whom a faculty member has, or should reasonably expect to have in the future, academic responsibility.
Faculty Code of Conduct: Scholarship

- Type of Unacceptable Conduct in Relation to Scholarship
- Violation of canons of intellectual honesty, such as research misconduct and/or intentional misappropriation of the writings, research, and findings of others.
Faculty Code of Conduct: The University

- Types of Unacceptable Conduct in relation to The University
  - Intentional disruption of functions or activities sponsored by the University
  - Unauthorized use of University resources or facilities on a significant scale for personal purposes.
  - Discrimination or Harassment of University employees, including for arbitrary or personal reasons.
  - Serious violation of University policies governing the professional conduct of faculty, including policies applying to research, conflicts of commitment, outside professional activities, and whistleblower protections
Faculty Code of Conduct: Colleagues

- Types of Unacceptable Conduct in relation to Colleagues
  - Making evaluations of the professional competence of faculty members by criteria not directly reflective of professional performance.
  - Breach of established rules governing confidentiality in personnel procedures.
Faculty Code of Conduct: Other Unacceptable Conduct

- In addition to the enumerated examples of unacceptable conduct, other conduct will violate the Faculty Code of Conduct if:
  1) It is not justified by the Ethical Principles listed in the Faculty Code of Conduct, and
  2) it “significantly impairs the University’s Central functions.”
Discipline Sanctions for Senate Faculty – APM 016

- Written Censure
- Reduction in Salary (Temporary or permanent)
- Demotion (Chancellor has authority to reduce within rank; President has authority to reduce for tenured or SOE)
- Suspension without pay
- Denial of current or future emeritus status
- Dismissal (Chancellor can dismiss if not tenured or SOE. Otherwise, authority rests with Regents.)
Reviewing Possible Code of Conduct Violations

- **Initiation** – Any member of the University community may submit a complaint alleging a violation of the Faculty Code of Conduct, or the Chancellor may initiate a review on her own initiative.

- **Three year limitation** – Chancellor may not initiate discipline after 3 years from when administration “knew” of the misconduct.

- **Opportunity for Informal Review and Resolution**
Reviewing Possible Code of Conduct Violations – Cont.

- Vice Provost of Academic Affairs charges investigation

- Investigation is conducted by senate faculty member, partnered with staff investigator

- If allegations are substantiated, Chancellor will consider whether to propose discipline, and what level of discipline.

- If the Faculty member does not accept the proposed discipline, or respond to the Chancellor’s letter proposing discipline, the P&T Hearing process is initiated.

- Chancellor has final authority (in most cases) in imposing discipline.
APM 150 – Non-senate Faculty Disciplinary Process (non-represented)

- APM 150 provides for progressive corrective action for non-senate faculty (non-represented).

- The level of discipline must be justified by the misconduct or performance issue being addressed.

- The process may begin with non-disciplinary letter of expectations, or spoken warning.

- Levels of discipline: written warning, written censure, suspension, reduction in salary, demotion, and dismissal.
Non-senate Faculty Disciplinary Process -- Continued

- For most discipline, the action must be preceded by a Notice of Intent and an opportunity to respond.

- Non-senate faculty (non-represented) can grieve discipline under APM 140 (Non-senate Academic Appointees/Grievances)

- For dismissal actions, non-senate faculty have a right to request a hearing before a committee of the Academic Senate, in place of using APM 140.
Unit 18 Lecturers – A Special Category of Non-senate Faculty

- Unit 18 Lecturers can be disciplined and dismissed for misconduct/poor performance under the terms of their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

- Unit 18 Lecturers are entitled to union representation throughout the discipline and grievance process. In most cases, they can appeal discipline to an outside arbitrator for a final and binding decision.
Administrative (Non-Disciplinary) Actions

- Senate Faculty Termination for Incompetence (APM 075)
- Layoff of Non-senate Faculty due to budget, lack of work, or programmatic change resulting in lack of work.
Problems in the Department—Tips for Chairs

- The most successful Chairs engage challenging problems and personalities, rather than avoiding them. Don’t let issues fester.

- Remain even-keeled in all interactions. Don’t respond in kind to aggressive or inappropriate communications.

- Take appropriate action in response to poor behavior or performance. Document all significant interactions with follow-up email, memo to file, or confirming letter as appropriate.

- Consult with your resources as appropriate.
More Tips for Chairs…

- Remember (and remind your faculty) that University emails are not private. When discussing confidential or sensitive personnel issues, keep in mind that your emails could end up in front of a jury or in the Sacramento Bee.
APM 025
Conflict of Commitment and Outside Professional Activities of Faculty Members
APM 025 in the SOM and SOVM

- APM 025 does not apply to Faculty in the School of Medicine. School of Medicine Faculty are covered by APM 671 – Conflict of Commitment and Outside Activities of Health Sciences Compensation Plan, which has parallel provisions.

- APM 025 applies to Faculty in the School of Veterinary Medicine, in conjunction with their Strict Full Time Salary Plan.
APM 025 – Conflict of Commitment and Outside Professional Activities

- Faculty have full-time commitment to the University and owe their primary professional allegiance to the University (APM 025-2a).

- Outside professional activities must not conflict with the faculty member’s professional obligations to the University.

- Outside professional activities are limited to 48 days per year for fiscal-year appointees, and 39 days for academic year appointees.
Category I Activities

- Most likely to cause a conflict of commitment
- Require Prior Approval and must be reported annually
- Examples:
  - Assuming executive or management role in a corporation.
  - Administering grant outside of University that normally would be done through UC.
  - Accepting other paid employment.
  - Involving a student in an outside compensated activity.
Category II Activities

- Less likely than Category I to create a Conflict of Commitment
- Prior approval usually not required
- Still must be reported annually

Examples
- Providing expert witness testimony
- Providing non-patient care consulting services
- Providing a workshop for industry
Category III Activities

- Accepted as part of the faculty member’s scholarly and creative work
- Not counted as part of established time limits
- Reporting not required
- But still must not be permitted to create a conflict of commitment

Examples:
- Reviewing Journals
- Presenting at Professional Meetings
- Writing Books
Reporting Period

- Call for Annual APM 025 Reporting issued by VP Academic Affairs in September
- Period of reporting is for previous year (July 1 – June 30)
- Final reports submitted by faculty in Forms Online system in Early November
- Faculty who did not engage in Category I or II activities are still required to submit a report.