

Consulting Management Committee
December 10, 2010

Attendees

Members: M. Aindow (Co-chair), J. Hepworth, A. Deblas, A. Rosman and T. Van Hoof.
Staff: N. Bull, S. Wetstone, E. Passan

The meeting was convened at 11:00 AM:

1. The minutes of the October 1, 2010 and November 5, 2010 meetings were approved.
2. Faculty Advisory Board:

In response to interest from the AAUP and Faculty Senate, the Provost has suggested that a Faculty Advisory Board be created to enhance the dialog between the faculty and Faculty Consulting Offices with the goal of improving the consulting process. The Senate Executive Committee would like to merge the Consulting Management Committee with a Faculty Advisory Board and thereby give the combined committee authority over consulting.

The President and Provost Offices do not consider consulting as a mandatory subject of collective bargaining. Members of the CMC are expected to make a serious commitment to learning the various rules, procedures and 'case law' on ethics and consulting and to have a long term institutional perspective towards their decision making. Members of an advisory board could have a more short term or individual perspective. They would not be expected to spend the time to learn all the rules and past decisions.

A faculty advisory board could be significantly helpful with establishing the online approval process. Nancy Bull will forward pertinent paragraphs from AAUP report to the CMC members which will then be discussed at its next meeting.

3. Consulting Oversight Committee:

The Consulting Oversight Committee (CoC) met to conduct their yearly assessment of the consulting program, but did not have a quorum.

- a. The CoC believes that UConn remains compliant with the State statutes on consulting.
- b. The CoC is supportive of the proposed definitional changes for the accelerated approval process that were previously reviewed and endorsed by the CMC.
- c. The CoC recognizes the critical role of department heads in determining whether faculty have a conflict of commitment and/or are competing with the University for work that it would choose to perform. The CoC recommends more face-to-face training for department heads.

The CMC discussed the role of department heads. Some do not appear to be comfortable with the attestations they must sign on the request form and feel approvals should come from the faculty member or Dean. In Storrs, the department head serves at the discretion of the Dean. Some departments have faculty who serve as department head on a

rotational basis. Some decisions are made within committees. Each department has different policies for department heads.

Moving approval authority to the Dean level could slow consulting process. Someone has to decide if activity will interfere with faculty getting their job done. Discussion regarding who should make the specific attestations will be resumed at the next CMC meeting.

- d. The CoC endorses shifting the audit schedule from twice a year to once a year. This will require a change in State statute.

Since there wasn't a quorum at the CoC, the votes for all of the above have been put off to its next meeting.

4. UCHC Request for Action #9 – Promotional Activities (draft attached):

S. Wetstone reviewed the proposed revisions. There was discussion whether Action #9 should be separated into two action items, those being promotional activities and control of educational content. Faculty must have control over the content of an educational activity and the use of prepared slides and/or the logo of the contracting entity is problematic.

The proposed revisions to action #9 were approved (3 yea and 1 abstention).

5. Use of the University's websites or print publication for advertising an activity associated with faculty consulting.

The discussion started at the last meeting was continued. There was agreement that the University needs a policy regarding advertising on websites. Such a policy may be different for .edu vs .com sites. Faculty should be treated as any other State citizen regarding access to any advertizing allowed with the possible exception of businesses run through the Tech Transfer and Commercialization. This discussion will be continued at the meeting.

6. Consulting while on Sabbatical leave:

Postponed until the January meeting.

7. Royalties and consulting:

There is a common belief that the rules for consulting do not apply to book royalties but an applicable written policy has not as yet been identified. The open question is whether any such exemption would apply to any activities in which royalties are involve. This discussion will be continued at the meeting.

The committee adjourned at 12:02 PM.

Next meeting to be held on Friday, January 14, 2010 at 1:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by:
E. Passan