The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee met October 15, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. in the Psychology Conference Room, 305 Copeland Hall.

Present: John Anderson, Joe Benz, Allan Jenkins, Daryl Kelley, Kenya Taylor, Keith Terry.

Absent: Mary Barton, John Dinsmore

The meeting was called to order by the Immediate Past President of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Daryl Kelley. After outlining the committee’s responsibilities, nominations were accepted for a committee chair and secretary. Jenkins volunteered to administer the committee and Terry chose to serve as scribe.

Kelley shared with the group a list of items dated April 11, 2003 which was sent by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The EC wants the AFTC to examine these and make appropriate recommendations to the senate. The list concerned:

1. inconsistencies in the handbook regarding time and service and tenure. The years counted are not consistent.
2. the development of a process in which a letter would be sent to the SVCAA by those applying for promotion or tenure to determine if in fact, the basic requirements have been met by the applicant.
3. possible inconsistencies between colleges regarding promotion and tenure criteria. The EC had a number of questions including:
   - Is it true?
   - Is there unnecessary ambiguity in the standards?
   - Should chairs take a more active role in reviewing the standards?
   - Do we need a mini tenure review in the third year?
4. the Board of Regents’ change in the process to be followed if a termination of a tenured faculty member occurs. The senate’s policies need to be consistent with the Regents’ policy.

Various committee members agreed to do background research on these topics before scheduling the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Terry