

Report to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee

From : Maryse Fauvel, Chair of RPT 2010-2011

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Committee Members 2010-2011 : Christopher Abelt, Robert Archibald, John Charles, Maryse Fauvel (Chair), Deborah Morse, Virginia Torczon

This report covers the activities of the Committee in 2010-2011.

The Advisory Committee on Retention, Promotion, and Tenure consists of six members elected by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and charged with reviewing recommendations made by Arts and Sciences departments and programs concerning the retention, promotion, and/or tenure of members of the home departments. The Committee's recommendations are forwarded to the Dean of the Faculty. Retention (interim review) cases usually come to the Committee only when a department or program recommends against retention or the Dean disagrees with a department or program recommendation. When a member of the Committee had a conflict of interest in the case of a candidate (such as a member of the same department), the Committee was replaced for that discussion and decision by a recent past member of the Committee from the same Area.

During the 2010-2011 academic year, the Committee reviewed 9 (nine) departmental recommendations for tenure and appointment to Associate Professor. Of the nine cases, the Committee forwarded to the Dean nine positive recommendations. The Dean agreed with the Committee's recommendations. The Provost however disagrees with two recommendations. Both cases were eventually sent to Procedural Review. One case was then reconsidered anew, starting at the departmental level. The RPT Committee and the Dean had a positive recommendation (finir quand decision du provost connue)

The other case –for which the home department had not recommended tenure- has been sent back to the department and will be reevaluated in the Fall of 2011.

The Committee also reviewed 10 (ten) cases departmental recommendations for promotion to Full Professor. All ten received positive endorsements from the Committee, and the Dean and the Provost concurred in each case.

The evaluation of one case for hiring of a new faculty at the rank of Professor with tenure has been postponed until late August 2011.

More and more colleagues and departments provided the dossiers electronically, using a secure Blackboard site. The Committee finds this to be a convenient and environmentally-friendly format, and finds no significant drawbacks the use of electronic dossiers. The chair helped by Mike Blum developed a standardized Blackboard site which has been accepted. It includes numerous explanations and tutorials which makes it very easy to use.