October 31, 2016

To: Dylan Rodriguez  
Chair, Riverside Division Academic Senate

Fr: Michael Adams  
Chair, Committee on Privilege and Tenure

Re: Systemwide Review of the Proposed Revisions to APM 015, APM 016, and Senate Bylaw 336

The Committee on Privilege and Tenure has reviewed the proposed revisions to APM 015 (The Faculty Code of Conduct), APM 016 (University Policy on Faculty Conduct and The Administration of Discipline), and Senate Bylaw 336 addressing procedures and timelines for Privilege and Tenure proceedings in discipline cases. The Committee notes the following concerns:

The additional language in APM – 015, Part III. A.3 that states “There is no limit on the time within which a complainant may report an alleged violation”. The Committee believes that there should be a reasonable correspondence between university policy and state laws which adhere to a statute of limitations. As with state law, the intention is to notify the accused in a timely manner of the allegations and obtain a resolution within a reasonable length of time. P&T finds the same reasoning and recommendation for the revision in Senate Bylaw 336.B.4.

The Committee was in support of the additional language in APM – 016, Section II that required one of two statements to be included in the notification of imposition of involuntary leave by the Chancellor. However, P&T believes a version of the second statement (the faculty member has the right to contest the involuntary leave in a grievance proceeding that will be handled on an expedited basis) should also be included in the subsequent paragraph pertaining to rare and egregious cases that authorizes the Chancellor to suspend the pay of a faculty member on involuntary leave pending disciplinary action. This was suggested to help reaffirm the rights of accused faculty members during the disciplinary process.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and opine on this systemwide matter.