A&S&E Grievance Panel
Annual Report 2009–2010

Although the Grievance Panel heard no cases this year, we were charged with updating the chapter in the A&S&E faculty handbook regarding grievance procedures. The ones that are currently listed are very much out of date. Among several issues that needed to be addressed, the current version fails to direct faculty members to the Office of Equal Opportunity for complaints of perceived discrimination, but instead refers to an “assistant to the president”—an obsolete office—and a review procedure that is no longer operative.

At Dean Vickie Sullivan’s behest, Chair Joseph Noonan (fall semester) convened two meetings of the panel to determine the changes we would propose to the A&S&E faculty for approval. The discussion began at the first meeting on November 13, 2009, and continued on December 4. At that meeting we revised the draft and approved the document we hoped to submit to the faculty in the spring. The revision process extended into the second semester through online discussion until we produced a document that met with everyone’s approval (i.e., the members of the Panel and Dean Sullivan as the representative of the administration).

On April 5, panel Chair Barbara Grossman (spring semester), accompanied by Jacqueline Hymes from the Office of Institutional Diversity, met with the Executive Committee to explain the changes the Grievance Panel had made. During the ensuing conversation, it became clear that the members of the Executive Committee were not ready to have the document move to the faculty for consideration. There are issues beyond mere wordsmithing that will require resolution before the panel will be able to present the revised document to the faculty at an A&S&E meeting in the fall.

The panel is particularly grateful to member Boris Hasselblatt for his guidance during the revision process.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Wallace Grossman, professor of drama, chair, Grievance Panel (spring semester), on behalf of the members of the Grievance Panel:

Howard Malchow, history professor, Ombudsman
Nalini Ambady, psychology professor (on leave 2009–2010)
Nancy Bauer, philosophy associate professor
Daniel Brown, German, Russian, and Asian languages and literatures associate professor
Mark Cronin-Golomb, biomedical engineering professor
Ann Easterbrooks, child development professor
Lee Edelman, English professor
Boris Hasselblatt, mathematics professor
Joseph Noonan, electrical and computer engineering professor, chair, fall 2009; on leave spring 2010
David Walt, chemistry professor