
The Grievance Panel met once during the 2018-2019 academic year. The meeting was held on Wednesday September 19, 2018 at 10:00 am. The purpose of the meeting was to vote on changes to the Bylaws and the Grievance Panel Procedures. This includes language describing the new confidentiality level of the Ombudsperson and his/her responsibilities, the informal Grievance Procedure, and the process by which the Ombudsperson is elected. One big change in the Ombudsperson position is that he/she can hear complaints about discrimination informally and in confidence without having to report to OEO (no longer a mandatory reporter). The ombudsperson will undergo professional training as is now stipulated under the current bylaws for the Grievance Panel. The vote was unanimous in favor of the changes.

The changes to the Bylaws and the Grievance Panel Procedures were presented at the AS&E faculty meeting on October 17, 2018. One minor change was suggested concerning the replacement for the Ombudsperson when he/she goes on leave. The amended changes to the Bylaws and the Grievance Panel Procedures where unanimously approved at the AS&E faculty meeting on November 11, 2018.

The Ombudsperson, Mary Shultz, reported that she heard four cases this past academic year. This is fewer than expected for a University the size of Tufts. To better publicize the Ombudsperson position, a member of the Grievance Panel will make a short presentation about the Ombudsperson position at the new faculty meeting in August.

Jeff Zabel was re-elected as Chair of the Grievance Panel and Mary Shultz will continue to serve as Ombudsperson for the 2019-2020 Academic year.

For the Committee:

Jeff Zabel  Economics Department and Chair
Mary Shultz  Chemistry Department and Ombudsperson
Jeffrey Berry  Political Science Department
Luis Dorfmann  Civil and Environmental Engineering Department
Fulton Gonzalez  Mathematics Department
Soha Hassoun  Computer Science Department
Tama Leventhal  Child Study and Human Development Department
Kamran Rastegar  Department of International Literary and Cultural Studies
Hugh Roberts  History Department