

TO: Members of the Academic Council

RE: APPOINTMENT OF FACULTY OMBUDSMAN

At the May 8, 2008 Academic Council meeting, the Executive Committee will recommend appointment of Jeffrey R. Dawson, Professor Emeritus of Immunology and Associate Dean for Basic Medical Science Curriculum in the School of Medicine, for a two-year term as Faculty Ombudsman beginning July 1. The Ombudsman is appointed by the Academic Council and reports directly to the president. President Brodhead is supportive of this appointment.

Professor Dawson has served seven terms on Academic Council and one on its Executive Committee. Included in his extensive university service, Professor Dawson served as a member and faculty co-chair of the President's Committee on Facilities and the Environment for fifteen years, a member and chair of the Basic Medical Scientists Coordinating Committee for several years, and chaired the APT committee for the Department of Immunology for fourteen years. He has also served on several search committees and committees for performance reviews of senior administrators and medical school departments. In his part time position as associate dean, his primary responsibility is oversight of basic science medical education, and in this same capacity he serves on the executive committee to the Duke University-National University of Singapore Graduate Medical School.

EXCERPT - Appendix M of the Faculty Handbook

The ombudsman and the FHC shall have jurisdiction to consider complaints from faculty and instructional staff concerning one or more of the following matters:

1. Dismissal for misconduct or neglect of duty.
2. Termination of appointment prior to its expiration date.
3. Disputed claims by a faculty member to the existence of tenure.
4. Allegations of violation of academic freedom.
5. Allegations of violation of academic due process with respect to an adverse employment or disciplinary action, including allegations of biased or prejudiced conduct by a decision-maker of a substantial nature that likely had a material impact on the outcome of the proceedings.
6. Allegations of adverse employment actions involving discrimination on the basis of race, creed or religion, color, veteran status, sex, sexual preference, age, national or ethnic origin, or handicap. Adverse employment actions include actions with respect to the member's rank, salary, fringe benefits, sabbatical and other leaves with or without compensation, workload or work assignment, promotion, tenure, and extension or termination of employment.
7. Allegations of damaging instances of harassment directed against the complainant by other members of the university community after failure of a university officer or agency to resolve the matter.
8. Appeals from the findings by a harassment grievance hearing panel or the decision by a responsible official based on such findings.