

New Information Below

COB

Confidential

We were sent an example of some of the details that CoB administrators provide to their faculty via e-mail and other forms of communication. We thought it would be instructive to share with our readers the following e-mail, written by EcoFinIB Chair George Carter on 9/29/2005 and sent to the 19 members of his department:

To EFIB Faculty:

Thank you for helping me update our recruiting document on faculty research. The current copy is attached.

The attachment provides a status report on the currency (research active status) of EFIB Department tenure-track faculty (ignoring retiring faculty members Black and Cartee). In summary, using a three refereed publications in the last five years standard, the EFIB tenure-track faculty are:

Research Active (Tenured)

Carter, Green, Klinedinst, Lindley, Mixon, Niroomand, Nissan, Sawyer

Not Research Active (Tenured)

Gunther, King,

Research Active (Not Tenured)

Clark (hired 8/03, 3rd Year Review Due: Spring 2006, Tenure Application: Fall 2008)

Lo (hired 8/01, 3rd Year Review Conducted: Spring 2004, Tenure Application: Fall 2006)

Malik (hired 8/05, 2 years tenure credit, 3rd Year Review Due: Spring 2006, Tenure Application: Fall 2008)

Salter (hired 8/02, 3rd Year Review Conducted: Spring 2005, Tenure Application: Fall 2007)

Sharp (hired 8/00, 3rd Year Review Conducted: Spring 2004, Tenure Application: Fall 2005)

Tang (hired 8/04, 2 years tenure credit, 3rd Year Review Due: Spring 2006, Tenure Application: Fall 2007)

Wong (hired 8/02, 3rd Year Review Conducted: Spring 2005, Tenure Application: Fall 2007)

Not Research Active (Not Tenured)

Eisenberg (hired 8/03, 3rd Year Review Due: Spring 2006, Tenure Application: Fall 2008)

Monchuk (hired 8/04, 3rd Year Review Due: Spring 2007, Tenure Application: Fall 2009)

This academic year, we will have promotion and tenure business. You can see that the Department will review the Tenure Application of David Sharp this Fall 2005 and the 3rd Year Review dossiers of John Clark, Larry Eisenberg, Farooq Malik and Linghui Tang during Spring 2006. In addition, the Department will review Promotion Applications of John Clark, David Sharp, and Linghui Tang this Fall 2005. If there are other promotion plans in the Department, please let me know.

George

The first category indicates that eight tenured EcoFinIB faculty were considered by Carter to be “research active,” using a standard of 3 refereed publications in the last three years (presumably 2003, 2004, 2005; if not, then 2002, 2003, and 2004).

The second category indicates that two tenured professors, William Gunther and Ernest King, were “not research active” at the time of the memo. Category 3 says that eight untenured junior faculty were considered by Carter as “research active” in September of 2005. The final category indicates that two untenured professors, Larry Eisenberg and Daniel Monchuk, were considered to be “not research active” using the standard Carter mentioned at the top of the memo.

Note all of the details provided in Carter’s e-mail: dates-of-hire, due dates on tenure applications, due dates on 3rd year review applications, whether or not tenure credit was given to various faculty, completion of 3rd year review and tenure decisions, promotion application due dates on various faculty, and the research activity (status) of each of the 19 professors.

Let’s delve into the first part of the data just a little, by looking at the eight “research active” tenured faculty at the top of the report/memo from Carter. A recent report at usmpride.com indicates that for the period 1999-2006, Professor Mark Klinedinst failed to produce a refereed journal article. Our literature search using *EBSCOhost* (and covering the period since his PhD, or 1988-2006) confirms that assertion, as indicated by the exhibit below (other details using the *USM Bulletin*, various years):

1987 --- Received PhD; Began at USM
1991 --- *Australian Bulletin of Labor; Economic Analysis and Workers' Management*
1992 --- *European Economic Review; Journal of Economic Issues*
1993 --- Tenure; Promotion to Associate Professor
No refereed journal articles in 1987-1990, 1993.

1987-1993

1994 --- *Journal of Economic Issues*
1996 --- *Journal of Economic Issues*
1998 --- *Journal of Comparative Economics; Journal Of Comparative Economics*; Promoted to Professor
No refereed journal articles in 1995, 1997, 1999-2006.

1994-2006

How is Carter applying the *objective standard* (i.e., 3 “refereed publications” in last 5 years) in this case? Depending on how 2006 is counted, Klinedinst requires 10-11 years to accumulate 3 refereed journal articles. Can all CoB faculty get by without having to produce refereed *journal articles*, or is this a “special case?” Is the CoB now counting book chapters as equivalent to journal articles in some, if not all, cases?

New Information from an Anonymous Reader

I was at USM during the time frame you discuss above. If you check the 92-93 USM budget you will see that Mark Klinedinst began that year as an Associate Professor, which means that he was promoted to Associate at the end of the 91-92 academic year. He would have gotten a promotion raise at the beginning of 92-93. If you have access to Sedona you may also be able to check the date he began at USM. I believe it may be earlier (1986) than your report implies.

I am not taking issue with the point you are making above. If anything, the story gets a little spicier given that he was promoted one year before your report indicates. At the time his application for promotion was filed in 1991, he had only 2 articles published. They are listed above. Around the time his application was circulating, or shortly after, another 2 articles were published. What are the promotion standards in the College today? More, or less?

Another Reader Responds

Your reader skipped over the most intriguing part of Mark Klinedinst’s timeline by focusing on the promotion to associate. He was also promoted to full in May of 1998, and with four refereed publications, just like the promotion to associate. The final two of the four articles, the two in the JCE, were published in the Fall of 1998, over a year after Klinedinst put his promotion to full dossier into circulation (In one case it was almost 18 months). And no, you won’t find anything after these two. Though we have learned he has gotten some nice raises in the past two cycles in 2004 and 2006.