ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY OMBUDSPERSON FOR 2005-2006

The annual report of the University Faculty Ombudsperson for 2005-2006 is reproduced below.

Sue Alexander Greninger, Secretary
The Faculty Council

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During academic year (AY) 2005-06, thirty tenure-track faculty, lecturers, and assistant instructors from eight different Colleges contacted the Faculty Ombudsperson to seek help or advice on concerns involving termination, denial of promotion and tenure, disciplinary actions, and withholding of substantial rights. Of these, counseling or mediation for about one-third continued for at least two semesters. The vast majority of the cases were resolved through mediation and informational counseling, and very few of the cases were referred to the Grievance Committee, although some are still in mediation.

The mediations performed involved meetings with four different Deans, six different Departmental Chairs, and several staff of the Legal Affairs Office. Ombuds-related activities averaged about 7 hours a week during the fall and spring semesters, and 2.5 hours a week during the summer.

In addition to the activities noted above, my Ombudsperson-related work included a meeting with the Provost about every six weeks, a meeting with the Texas Association of Ombudspersons every four months, a three-day national Ombudsperson meeting with workshops in San Diego, and numerous telephone conferences with various University officials, faculty and staff to seek help or clarification of University policies.

Submitted by Stan Roux, Faculty Ombudsperson
September 18, 2006

Posted on the Faculty Council Web site (www.utexas.edu/faculty/council) on September 19, 2006. Copies are available on request.