DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY OMBUDSPERSON FOR 2007-2008

The annual report of the University Faculty Ombudsperson for 2007-08 is reproduced below.

Sue Alexander Greninger

Sue Alexander Greninger, Secretary
The Faculty Council

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY OMBUDSPERSON FOR 2007-2008

University Faculty Ombudsperson Report, 2007-08

During the academic year 2007-08, thirty-five tenure-track faculty, lecturers, and assistant instructors from six different Colleges or Schools contacted the Faculty Ombudsperson to seek help or advice on concerns involving termination, denial of promotion and tenure, disciplinary actions, or withholding of substantial rights. Of these, counseling or mediation for about one-sixth 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 two different Deans, six different Departmental Chairs, and several staff of the Legal Affairs Office. Ombudsperson-related activities averaged about four hours a week during the Fall and Spring semesters, and two hours a week during the summer.

In addition to the activities noted above, Ombudsperson-related work included a meeting with the Provost about every eight weeks, a meeting with the Texas Association of Ombudspersons every four months, several hours of consultation with other Universities about their planned Ombuds office, and numerous telephone conferences with various University officials, faculty and staff to seek help or clarification of University policies.

Completed by Stan Roux, Faculty Ombudsperson
October 1, 2008

Stan Roux
Professor