ISU FACULTY SENATE FACT FINDING TASK FORCE ON GREENLEE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Charge:

The Faculty Senate has a responsibility to ensure that faculty members are treated fairly and with due process when dealing with the administration. The recent actions of the administration in dealing with the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication may have a far-reaching, negative impact on the reputations and careers of the faculty members in the school. These actions are reported to have been taken in response to allegations of racist behavior and/or comments made by faculty members. The question has been raised as to whether these actions amount to the unilateral imposition of sanctions on the faculty. According to the faculty conduct policy (Faculty Handbook, Section 7.2. Faculty Misconduct), the imposition of sanctions for violations of university policies on race relations and/or for racial harassment may only be imposed following specific procedures, which apparently were not used in this case. However, there is a great deal of confusion surrounding this issue, somewhat due to the lack of first-hand information about what the allegations were and what were the administration's actions.

This fact finding task force is charged with determining the facts of the situation. These will include determining the precise nature of the allegations made, the actions taken by the administration, and the reasons the administration had for taking those actions. The results of the task force's investigation will be presented in a report to the Faculty Senate President and reported to the Executive Board of the Faculty Senate.

Membership of the Task Force

The Fact Finding Task Force shall have a membership of five faculty members.

Life of the Task Force

The Task Force shall report to the Faculty Senate President and the Executive Board of the Faculty Senate no later than November 15, 2002. The life of the Task Force may be extended with a majority vote of the Executive Board.