UNIT CODE SCREENING COMMITTEE

Meeting #5, October 2, 1997, held in Rawl 127, 2-4:10 p.m.

Agenda Item I. Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of Sept. 25 were approved without amendment.

Agenda Item II. Dept. of History Code:

Prof. Ferrell expressed the Dept. of History's objection to
committee's procedure of re-visiting the entire code each
time it is brought back, and asked that the committee limit
itself to the two substantive matters raised at the last
meeting: that the oral presentation be deleted from tenure
and promotion decisions (deleted in this draft); and that
numerical relative weights be specified. The first having
been resolved, the committee began discussion with p.10
11.46-53.

Prof. Ferrell explained the Dept. of History's contention that
numerical weights were implied in the current language.
The committee objected 1) that no minimum was specified.
It was then recalled to the committee's attention that the
Faculty Senate Governance committee had ruled on April 2,
1997 that a minimum of 10% for each area of faculty activity
should be employed in unit codes. Further discussion also
revealed 2) that relative weights should be in a separate or
section since they must apply only to annual evaluation and
merit salary increment, and must not be employed in
other personnel actions, e.g., tenure and promotion.

When asked whether fixed-term faculty would be held to a
minimum research requirement, the committee pointed out
that App. D-4 II.B.2 states that fixed-term faculty shall be
evaluated "in accordance with the provisions of the
employment contract", i.e., they are not required to have
duties in all areas of faculty service and contracts may omit
research.

The committee expressed one additional serious objection:
regarding p.15 11.5-8. In l.6, the phrase "for only one year"
was seen to be in conflict with the fact that all new
probationary appointments are for 3-year contracts. But
more importantly, these four lines describe a different
membership and voting procedure for the personnel
committee than that specified in section V.B.2. Prof. Ferrell
recounted the practical need for such a mechanism based
on experience. The committee replied that the Dept. of
History could not have all tenured and probationary faculty
serve on the Personnel committee during the academic year
and then adopt a different membership and disregard the
provisions of Appendix D-7 IV.A.3.b during the summer. It
was felt that this entire section should be deleted and App.
D followed. Prof. Ferrell stated that the Dept. of History had
an interpretation of App. D that would allow the language in
11.5-8. The committee stated that it had no authority to
approve such language (and set precedent) without
direction from Governance.

Wishing to avoid such a delay, Profs. Ferrell and Biles
asked for a vote on the code subject to the revisions to p.10,
but without changing the language on p.15. The vote was 0-0.
All members abstained. The motion failed. The
committee made clear that were the section deleted, there
was no other substantive objection to the code.

After this lengthy discussion, the committee offered additional suggestions for additional editorial revision:

The committee adjourned and agreed to meet again next week to take up the Dept. of Philosophy code. Prof. Hughes indicated he would be unable to attend.