

February 9, 2006

To: R. Zemetra, Chair, Faculty Council
D. Adams, Faculty Secretary

From: G. Möller, Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee

Subject: Seconded Motion from Faculty Affairs Committee for amendment of
FSH 1565 and 3520 for REFERENCES TO INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY

The Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) is forwarding the attached amendment as a seconded motion for consideration by Faculty Council.

FAC has reviewed needs in this area and the current University initiatives that serve to create a supportive academic culture for interdisciplinary activity. We feel that formally incorporating the proposed criteria into the promotion and tenure provisions of the Faculty Staff Handbook will advance the reward and regard for interdisciplinary academic activity. Furthermore, these references will assist the University in achieving the Vision articulated in the 2005-2009 Strategic Plan:

*The University of Idaho will be a university of choice in the West for high-quality and innovative undergraduate and graduate degree programs, **interdisciplinary learning**, state-of-the-art technology and a residential campus experience.*

Please contact me if you require supporting information in your discussions of this proposal.

(Attachment)

TENURE/PROMOTION PROVISIONS OF FACULTY-STAFF HANDBOOK
WITH SUGGESTED REFERENCES TO INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY

SECTION 1565

A-1. The principal functions of a university are

A-2. Effective teaching is

A-3. Scholarship is

A-4. In addition to the aforementioned teaching and scholarly activities, faculty members' general service efforts

A-5. All faculty are encouraged to engage in interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary activities and cooperation as they perform their teaching, scholarship, advising, service, and extension (outreach) responsibilities.

SECTION 3520

H-1. Departmental Criteria. The faculty of each department or equivalent unit establishes specific criteria in teaching, research, and service pertaining to tenure (and promotion in rank) of their members. The criteria shall include a statement regarding the value and weight ascribed to interdisciplinary activity. Departmental criteria are subject to review by the college committee on tenure and promotion for consistency with the college criteria. Such criteria may be changed at any time by a majority vote of the departmental faculty, but they must be reviewed for possible changes at intervals not to exceed five years. Any such revision may not be retroactive but, for evaluation purposes, are considered proportionately in conjunction with criteria that were previously in force.

I-2. College Criteria. Each college committee on tenure and promotion recommends, for adoption by the college faculty, criteria in teaching, research, and service for granting tenure (and promotion to specific ranks) in that college. The criteria shall include a statement regarding the value and weight ascribed to interdisciplinary activity. College ~~Such~~ criteria must be compatible with the university-wide criteria as specified in [1565](#) and [3560](#), and are subject to approval by the provost. The dean or the faculty (by petition of 20 percent or more of the faculty members of the college) may initiate consideration for revision of the criteria at any time.