



To: Catherine Doheny  
Secretary of the Faculty

From: Barbara W. Grossman  
Chair, Committee on Student Life

Date: May 7, 2006

Re: Committee on Student Life Annual Report for 2005-2006

The Committee on Student Life had a quiet first semester. Our sole responsibility was to administer the 2006 Wendell Phillips competition. (The number of applicants was down this year to 11, perhaps the result of having moved the Wendell Phillips address from Commencement to Baccalaureate.) We read each candidate's submissions over winter break and chose the finalists at a meeting in early February: Mauricio Artinano-Guzman, David Baumwoll, Jeffrey Katzin, and Jeremy Sueker. All deserve recognition for their impressive record of service and scholarship at Tufts. Following the oral presentations on March 6, the final stage of the competition, we awarded the 2006 Wendell Phillips Prize to Mauricio Artinano-Guzman '06.

During the spring semester, we heard three appeals. The first, on January 18 before classes started, involved an expulsion case and resulted in the CSL's decision to uphold the expulsion. The second was an appeal of the TCUJ's refusal to recognize a boxing club a student had hoped to form. We vacated the J's decision and made specific recommendations to both parties, the student and the J, for future action and discussion. (We suggested that the student return to the J with a revised proposal that includes a more specific description of the proposed club's activities and a prototype constitution for his organization. We recommended that the student and the J consult with David Slater about the acceptability of the proposed activities. We also suggested that the J review the constitutions of comparable organizations recognized by the TCU and consider the precedent set by the recognition of these groups.) The last hearing was for an academic dishonesty case in which we reduced the consequence from Disciplinary Probation II to Disciplinary Probation I.

We also avoided a hearing which would have pitted *The Primary Source* against the TCU Elections Board (ELBO) by fostering dialogue between representatives of the *Source* and the TCUJ. The *Source*'s representative wanted to invalidate the results of an ELBO referendum on wind power conducted last spring because he believed that the referendum procedure had been flawed. Thanks to mediation by the CSL, both parties reached an

accord: the *Source*'s representative dropped his request for a hearing when the J's representative acknowledged that the referendum had indeed been flawed and agreed to convey the CSL's mandate to both the J and ELBO. That mandate directed ELBO to conduct a new referendum on wind power and ensure that its referendum procedures remain fair and unbiased henceforth.

In addition to CSL Chair Barbara W. Grossman, the faculty members of CSL for 2005-2006 were Christoph Borgers, Alva Couch, Consuelo Cruz, Calvin Gidney, Steven Hirsch, and Sonia Hofkosh, along with *ex officio* members Veronica Carter, Jodie Nealley, David O'Leary, and Bruce Reitman. Jordana Starr was the student Chair, with Alexandra Barker, Alison Hoover, and Vanessa White as the student representatives. A fifth student, Travis Brackin, failed to appear for any of our meetings or hearings and was unresponsive to attempts by the two Chairs to communicate with him. Although elected to his position on the CSL, he did not fulfill any of his responsibilities as a student representative.