

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
(Following the Executive Committee)
Friday, September 10, 2010
Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room
2nd Floor, J.S. Clark Administration Building
Southern University and A & M College
Baton Rouge, LA

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Public Comments
5. Action Item
 - A. Tenure and Promotion Award, SUSLA
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

Atty. Patrick O. Jefferson – Chair; Mrs. Lea P. Montgomery - Vice Chair; Mr. Walter Guidry;
Mr. Darren G. Mire; Mr. Randale Scott; Mr. Achilles Williams; Atty. Tony M. Clayton - Ex Officio



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Office of the Chancellor

August 30, 2010

Dr. Ronald Mason Jr., President
Southern University System
4th Floor, J. S. Clark Administration Building
Baton Rouge, La 70813

RE: Promotion and Tenure Appeal

Dear Dr. Mason:

Please accept this correspondence as one reflecting the determination of this Office in response to an appeal for promotion and tenure as submitted by Associate Professor Willie Burton. Specifically, Mr. Burton, sought consideration to be promoted from Associate Professor to Professor in keeping with his dutiful service to Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA), particularly in the areas of teaching, research/creative work, outreach and service.

Accordingly, the university charged Appeals Committee convened and consequently evaluated Mr. Burton's achievements establishing an overall average score of 91.8 percent. My review of this rating further indicated that four of the five members rated Mr. Burton on average of 95.25 percent. The remaining member rated the candidate by a score of 78 which is significantly skewed from the body. Moreover, I am aware of Mr. Burton's 40 years of service to this institution, his scholarly work, community service, and leadership in representing the faculty of this campus.

I therefore, find as established by the aforementioned criteria and review that Mr. Burton warrants the promotion from Associate Professor to Professor, together with rights appertaining to such an appointment.

Hence, this communication requests your endorsement of this decision and that of the Southern University Board of Supervisors at their next scheduled meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,


Ray L. Belton, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Attachments

cc: Dr. Orella Brazile, Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
Dr. James Brown, Appeals Committee Chair

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MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Orella Brazile, Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs

From: Dr. James C. Brown
Appeals Committee

July 14, 2010

Re: Promotion Findings for Mr. Willie Burton

Promotion is based on merit. A candidate for promotion should have acceptable achievements in the areas of 1) teaching and/or outreach and 2) research/creative work. He or she is further expected to demonstrate over a sustained period, distinctive achievement in the areas mentioned comparable to successful candidates in the past five years.

A. Teaching

Since a primary activity of the university is the instruction of students, careful evaluation of teaching is essential. Because of the difficulty of teaching effectively, faculty members are urged to consider as many relevant measures as possible in appraising the candidate. Mr. Burton has forty (40) years of knowledge of the subject and has written extensively in his field of specialization; he wrote the first Volume of the History of SUSLA that is used in the orientation of all freshmen.

B. Research/Creative Work

Mr. Burton has contributed to the history of Shreveport's African American Community. In appraising his work, faculty members considered the quality and significance of his work, the quality of his publications and exhibits, and his articulation within the community.

C. Outreach

Mr. Burton's outreach scholarships for promotion meets the following conditions: 1) there is a substantive link with the significant human needs and societal problems, issues of concern; 2) there's direct utilization of Mr. Burton's academic and professional expertise; 3) the ultimate purpose is for the public or common good.

D. Service

Mr. Burton has served this institution with distinction on various departmental committees, university governance, assisted in recruitment, and developing and assisting in the implementation of new academic programs. It should be noted that Mr. Burton has made distinctive contributions for forty (40) years in his profession and on committee assignments for associations and learned societies.

F. Promotion Criteria

Southern University at Shreveport nurtures and defends the concept of promotion. As cited in the Faculty Handbook, the committee members cite Mr. Burton's achievements in the academy and supports his application for promotion.

G. Appeals Committee Evaluation

1. Dr. Sandra Tucker ___ (1) 18 (2) 11 (3) 15 (4) 16 (5) 17 (6) 14 Total Average = 91
2. Dr. Iris Champion ____ (1) 18 (2) 11 (3) 16 (4) 19 (5) 17 (6) 14 Total Average =95
3. Dr. James C. Brown ____ (1) 18 (2) 11 (3) 16 (4) 19 (5) 17 (6) 14 Total Average =95
4. Mr. Robert Williams ___ (1) 18 (2) 11 (3) 21 (4) 19 (5) 17 (6) 14 Total Average =100
5. Ms. Vanessa Leggette ___ (1) 18 (2) 10 (3) 7 (4) 17 (5) 12 (6) 14 Total Average = 78

Overall Average = 91.8

H. De Facto Promotion

A faculty member who has provided exemplary service can be awarded promotion by the chancellor. Mr. Burton has successfully rendered forty years of meritorious service to Southern University at Shreveport. Therefore, it is this committee's recommendation that he be granted full professorship under the De Facto powers held by Chancellor Belton.