

From: Carsten Holz <carstenholz@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Sep 15, 2008 at 9:11 AM
Subject: Resign as HSS delegate to Senate
To: secath@ust.hk, semantes@ust.hk

Dear Catherine (secretary to the Senate),

I herewith wish to resign from my position as HSS representative to the Senate with immediate effect.

Sincerely,
Carsten Holz

Dear colleagues (bcc'ed),

this decision follows directly from the way my 07/08 application for full professorship was handled by the UASC and the VPAA (and the appeal committee).

(i) If I take the UASC and VPAA reports seriously, they make no sense. All they do is inform me that I will never get full professorship at HKUST. (ii) If I don't take the UASC and VPAA reports seriously, then I am looking at a set of phony institutions and procedures. --- There is no point in spending my time trying to engage when the top admin either gives me rubbish and tells me to get lost, or the top admin asks not to be taken seriously.

I have documented my experience in this review at <http://ihome.ust.hk/~socholz/HKUST-SOSC.html#UASC-VPAA> You can view the full review file in my office or pick up a copy (copy excludes external letters). It may contain aspects of the review process that are relevant to everyone.

It doesn't help that my previous, floating salary bar review in 04/05 was handled in a way that I think outright violated university rules; <http://ihome.ust.hk/~socholz/HKUST-SOSC.html#Review0405>. The full review file will be in my office once my container shipment from Princeton arrives, probably by mid-October.

--- The webpage <http://ihome.ust.hk/~socholz/HKUST-SOSC.html> remains as documentation. Rereading and sorting through some overlap in what was an ongoing process, I am pleased to see that some of the things that I had pointed out earlier have changed in the meantime.

Thank you for your trust in electing me into the Senate 18 months ago.

Regards,
Carsten

From Carsten A. Holz <socholz@ust.hk>
to Josephine Wong <sojowong@ust.hk>
cc SOSC Academic Review Committee -- Prof Barry Sautman <sobarrys@ust.hk>,
Prof John Ma <sojohnma@ust.hk>, Prof Yimin Lin <y.lin@ust.hk>,
Jerry Patchell <sopatch@ust.hk>, WONG Raymond <sorwong@ust.hk>
date Tue, Sep 9, 2008 at 7:45 AM
subject My participation in the Div Acad Rev Committee Re: 1st Academic Review
Committee Meeting / 1 p.m. / Sept 10 (Wed)

Dear Raymond and colleagues in the academic review committee,

I am realizing that the academic review committee is supposed(?) to have an odd number of members. Therefore I feel I need to explain: I expect to report in sick for every meeting of the academic review committee. If I need to vote, even long-distance, I will vote 'abstain.'

Here is why: In my review for full professorship in 07/08, I had all excellent external letters and a very strong division report. The UASC and VPAA turned my application down by 100% ignoring the external letters as well as 100% ignoring the division report. In my previous academic review, the floating salary review of 04/05, I was turned down single-handedly by the dean who 100% ignored the division report (a unanimous yes, no external letters).

That is, in those cases where I have perfect clarity as to how the review process works, the division report, now twice, turned out to be irrelevant. As a (Associate) professor and a (this year's) review committee member, I find that insulting. Rationally, it's a 100% waste of a professor's time. It's insulting to bother external reviewers for nothing, and a waste of their time.

In this year's review round, I would have, for once, been able to evaluate one person well, and one person marginally. But *knowing,* through personal experience, that our division report and the external letters go straight into the trash bin, I will not play along in this fake game.

I am willing to join the academic review committee and to participate in the evaluation if the division review committee's decision is the final one in the review process.

My review for full professorship is documented at
<http://ihome.ust.hk/~socholz/HKUST-SOSC.html#UASC-VPAA>
I am happy to share the full review file with you. Let me know.

My previous review is documented at
<http://ihome.ust.hk/~socholz/HKUST-SOSC.html#Review0405>
I am happy to share the full review file with you once my container has arrived (it's in the container). Let me know.

Regards,
Carsten