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My participation in the Div Acad Rev Committee Re: 1st Academic Review Committee Meeting / 1 p.m. / Sept 10 (Wed)

Carsten A. Holz <socholz@ust.hk>

Tue, Sep 9, 2008 at 1:45 AM

To: [Secretary to the division head]

Cc: [SOSC Academic Review Committee members, division head]

Dear [Division head] 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