

APPENDIX K

TEACHING TRIAD

A senior faculty member may substitute the experience of participating in a teaching triad in the place of a Professional Status and Standards Committee review. The Development Committee describes a teaching triad as follows:

The Teaching Triad is composed of three faculty members who meet together on a regular basis to help improve each other's classroom teaching abilities. The format of the triad is flexible and is determined by the three faculty members involved. Some triads elect to observe each other's class lectures a set number of times and then to discuss the observations with the goal of making constructive suggestions to improve classroom teaching performance. Other triads may choose to gather on a regular basis to discuss problems or successes they have experienced in the classroom. The individual triads may function for an entire academic year or for only a semester as determined by the participants. In any case, the goal is to encourage a variety of teaching styles, to provide encouragement, and ultimately to improve classroom instruction. The actual composition of the triad is varied. At one end of the spectrum, the three faculty members may be from different schools or colleges, while at the other, they may be from the same department. Which composition is best depends not only on the academic disciplines involved but also on the personalities of the faculty members involved.

The procedure is simply to inform the Professional Status and Standards Chairman of the intention to participate in a teaching triad and to submit a brief report to the Professional Status and Standards Chairman when the experience has been completed. The report will be placed in the faculty member's file. The members of a triad may also choose to conduct peer and student evaluations with the help of the Professional Status and Standards Chairman.