



Intentional Leadership for Interdisciplinary Learning: A Joint Faculty Appointment Initiative

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Interdisciplinary Faculty: The Case of Professor Janus

- **Q:** What could have been done to improve consideration of Janus's case?
- **Q:** What recommendation should the dean make to the provost?
- **Q:** What should be done in planning for future interdisciplinary joint appointment hires?

- Texas A&M and College of Liberal Arts
- Interdisciplinary programs in Liberal Arts
- 2005: report of ad hoc committee on interdisciplinary programs
- 2006: appointment of associate dean
- 2006-2007: interdisciplinary by-laws developed, Joint Appointment Oversight Committee formed

I. Planning

- Rationale for interdisciplinary joint appointments
- Availability of new positions
- Request for joint proposals
- Evaluation of proposals
- Allocation process
- Joint Appointment Oversight Committee

II. Implementing

- “Guidelines for Interdisciplinary Joint Appointments”
- Approved by college Executive Council
- Searches conducted
- Jointly appointed interdisciplinary faculty hired
- Some specific details and processes

Conclusions to Date

Some key decisions:

- Attend to needs of younger faculty members
- Make appointments 50/50
- Create a college-level oversight committee
- Insist on the importance of joint processes
- Address challenges directly
- Report back in a few years when the first joint faculty member gets tenure!

Thank You!



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