

Senate this past February.

Whereas, faculty tenure is the foundation of academic freedom and excellence at American institutions of higher education,

And, whereas, encroachments upon tenure have proven historically to be detrimental both to civil liberties and the search for the truth,

And, whereas, experiments aimed at undermining tenure, however disguised or well-intentioned, invariably have a negative effect on the reputation of the institution undergoing such experimentation,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of New Mexico reaffirm its commitment to the principle of the inviolability of faculty tenure and request that President Richard Peck without reservations reaffirm his commitment to the same.

Subsequently, President Peck issued a strong statement of support of the resolution.

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Universities considering alternatives to traditional tenure frequently ignore a problem that has come to plague traditional tenure. Modern-day (and correct) emphases on diversity and fairness and the consequent proliferation of formal procedures now require faculty to act as human resource directors when evaluating a colleague for tenure. The procedural details and concern for possible litigation have made tenure review a time-consuming task that has little appeal to academics, most of whom have neither the training nor any interest in managing bureaucratic details.

What may be needed is a radical rethinking of tenure in which record-keeping, portfolio maintenance, and attention to procedure are made the responsibility of human resource professionals, and peer reviews deal only with quality and originality—a sufficiently controversial and exhausting function, but one that academics recognize as important.

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### Corrections and Clarifications

Caspar M. Schuwirth of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, should have been listed as the eleventh author of the report "Kinetics of response in lymphoid tissues to antiretroviral therapy of HIV-1 infection" by W. Cavert *et al.* (9 May, p. 960).

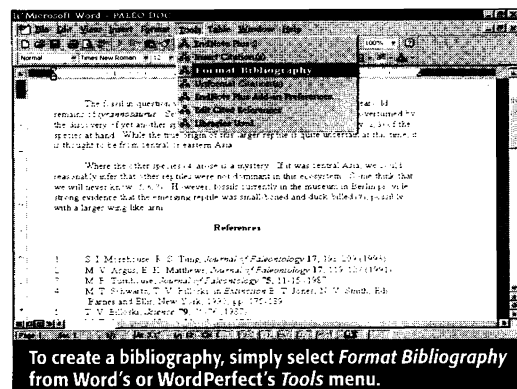
In the technical comment "Determining the early history of El Niño" by T. J. DeVries *et al.* (9 May, p. 965), reference "(4)" appearing on the fourth line of the column at right should have read, "(3)".

### Letters to the Editor

Letters may be submitted by e-mail (at [science\\_letters@aaas.org](mailto:science_letters@aaas.org)), fax (202-789-4669), or regular mail (*Science*, 1200 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005, USA). Letters are not routinely acknowledged. Full addresses, signatures, and daytime phone numbers should be included. Letters should be brief (300 words or less) and may be edited for reasons of clarity or space. They may appear in print and/or on the World Wide Web. Letter writers are not consulted before publication.

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