

ARTICLE XVII EVALUATIONS

Probationary, Tenured and Part-Time

Purpose

The primary purpose of the evaluation of faculty is the continued improvement of instruction and instructional support services.

I. Probationary Evaluation

The four-year probationary period will provide sufficient time for the new faculty member to understand the expectations for tenure, to develop the skills and acquire the experience to participate successfully in the educational process, and to use appropriate resources for professional growth and development. Faculty recommended for tenure, therefore, must reflect this standard of excellence in their performance of faculty duties and interaction with students and colleagues.

A. Three-Step Process

It is essential that each probationary faculty member take full responsibility for the appropriate portions of his/her tenure review process. The three steps are:

1. Tenure Review Committee (TRC)

A Tenure Review Committee (TRC) will follow the candidate(s) through the four probationary years. Members of this committee have an obligation to commit to the timeframe, uphold the confidentiality of the tenure review process, uphold the principles of equal employment opportunities, promote and respect diversity, review appropriate documents, and conduct fair and unbiased evaluation for the purpose of reaching a tenure decision.

In instances where a department/division/school has multiple probationary faculty in the tenure review process at the same time, so that it would be difficult to compose multiple tenure review committees, the Dean and affected Department Chair(s) may elect to combine committees. In such instances, the combined TRC will contain at least one member who can reasonably be expected to have sufficient disciplinary expertise to evaluate each probationary faculty member assigned to that committee for evaluation.

Appointment to a TRC will count toward fulfillment of a faculty member's college service obligation, and may be eligible for Flex credit as appropriate.

The TRC will be appointed by the Dean and will be comprised of three persons:

- a. The Dean and a minimum of two (2) tenured faculty members from the Department and/or Division/School, or related department and/or Division/School. The appointment of faculty will follow consultation and consensus between the Dean and the department/school chair(s).

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- b. The TRC will:
 - i. Conduct scheduled classroom/worksite/electronic visitation(s) as needed and submit written comments to the Dean.
 - a) The faculty member and Dean will mutually agree on the course(s) or equivalent in which the scheduled evaluation(s) will take place, so that the faculty member may be observed under optimum conditions commensurate with his/her abilities.
 - b) Each evaluation shall be based upon at least one (1) observation, lasting at least fifty (50) minutes.
 - c) Faculty members shall not be held accountable for any aspect of the educational program over which they have no authority.
 - d) Evaluations are to be based primarily on the observation described in subsection (b) above. Hearsay statements, rumors or information from anonymous sources shall be excluded from written evaluations. The TRC may include in the written evaluation information which has been documented through a completed investigation subsequent to a complaint, the findings of which investigation have been delivered to the faculty member under evaluation prior to the inclusion of this information in the evaluation report.
 - ii. Review items relevant to the instructional duties assigned to the probationary faculty member, including participation in curriculum development and review, and in development and assessment of student learning outcomes. Any information included in the probationary faculty member's evaluation regarding participation in curriculum or student learning outcome processes must be verified and documented.
 - iii. Complete a summary report.
 - iv. If the faculty members' performance is unsatisfactory or needs improvement(s), the TRC will develop a plan of action, follow-up activities, dates of completion, and measurable outcomes to address these issues.
 - v. Meet with the probationary faculty member to discuss the summary report.

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- vi. Forward recommendation(s), with appropriate supporting documentation to the Vice President and President.

2. Student Evaluation

- a. Student evaluations will be arranged through the appropriate Vice President's office, and be obtained in each class, or for those faculty who engage in instruction outside of the traditional classroom, in the equivalent of a class, per year during the time covered by this evaluation period. The objective will be to determine the student response to areas such as the fulfillment of the stated and distributed course objectives, effective communication, and respect for students' rights and needs.
- b. These student evaluations will be made available for the faculty member to review, and may be shared with the TRC at the discretion of the probationary faculty member.
- c. The student evaluations are the property of the probationary faculty member, and will be returned to the probationary faculty member at the end of the semester, and the information contained therein will not be retained by the college or the district, used by the TRC in the completion of the formal evaluation except as specified in subsection b above, or included in the probationary faculty member's personnel file.

3. Administration Review

Annually, the appropriate Vice President, Dean, or designee will review all data and documents provided by the TRC as compiled through the tenure review process.

- a. The Dean will forward recommendation(s), including his/her recommendations, to the Vice President.
- b. The Vice President will:
 - i. review recommendation(s),
 - ii. forward recommendation(s), including his/her recommendations, to the President.
- c. The President will:
 - i. review recommendation(s),
 - ii. forward recommendation(s), including his/her recommendations, to the Chancellor.

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- d. The Chancellor will:
 - i. review recommendation(s),
 - ii. forward recommendation(s), including his/her recommendations, to the Board of Trustees.

B. Evaluation Timelines

The Vice President or Dean will initiate the course of action to establish the tenure review process for each new hire.

1. First Academic Year

- a. The Dean meets with the new faculty member (and throughout the four year process as appropriate).
- b. A TRC is identified by the Dean for each new faculty member.
- c. The TRC meets with the faculty to discuss the process, format, objectives, timelines and expectations.
- d. Observations are made by all TRC members.
- e. Post-visit discussions to be held with the faculty member.
- f. Student evaluations are to be conducted.
- g. The TRC reaches its recommendation and completes a written report.
- h. The recommendation of renewal or non-renewal is submitted by the Dean to the Vice President and the President no later than February 1st.
- i. Letter of non-renewal or one (1) year renewal will be sent no later than March 15th.

2. Second Academic Year

- a. Follow d, e, f, g and h of the first year.
- b. Second semester (see Item I, section B, subsection 1i above) a letter of non-renewal or two (2) years renewal will be sent no later than March 15th.

3. Third Academic Year

- a. Follow d, e, f, g and h of the first year.

4. Fourth Academic Year

- a. Follow d, e, f, g and h of the first year.
- b. Documentation of all employment conditions such as, completion of degree along with all the appropriate materials to the Director of Human Resources no later than February 1st.