F.A.S.T. Program: Faculty Promotion and Tenure

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Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

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# PROMOTION AND TENURE

## Types of Faculty at Purdue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tenured/Tenure Track</td>
<td>1,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical/Professional</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visiting (temporary)</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjunct</td>
<td>358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PURDUE TENURE-TRACK FACULTY BY RANK

2021

- Professors (49%)
- Assistant Professors (25%)
- Associate Professors (26%)
PURDUE C/P FACULTY BY RANK

2021

Professors 18%
Associate Professors 25%
Assistant Professors 56%
PROMOTION AND TENURE

- Strong predictor of faculty satisfaction and success: *understanding the P & T process.*
- P & T *Policy, Procedures,* and *Criteria* have been refined and clarified, are posted on the web site.
- Process also summarized and reinforced for all units in annual letter, the “*Provost’s Memo*”

[http://www.purdue.edu/provost/faculty/promotionandtenure.html](http://www.purdue.edu/provost/faculty/promotionandtenure.html)
PROMOTION AND TENURE

• Three related but separate documents:
  • **POLICY**: defines what do we do, why, and who is responsible
  • **PROCEDURES**: exactly how is the process carried out?
  • **CRITERIA**: what are the yardsticks by which faculty achievement is measured in each discipline?
  • (Plus, the annual Provost’s Memo)
PROMOTION AND TENURE

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PROMOTION AND TENURE

• Your college and school/department have written promotion criteria
• These will differ among units, and perhaps even among sub-disciplines within a unit
• Tenure track and C/P faculty have distinct promotion criteria
• In all cases, these criteria, by university guidelines, must value impact foremost
to be considered for promotion, a faculty member should have demonstrated excellence and scholarly productivity in at least one of these areas. Ordinarily, strength should be manifest in more than one of these areas.

- DISCOVERY (research)
- LEARNING (teaching)
- ENGAGEMENT (department, Purdue, profession, community, state, world)
“Clinical/Professional Faculty focus principally on excellence in instruction and engagement. In addition to their instructional responsibilities on campus, C/P Faculty also may be professionals in a practice site and provide clinical supervision of students; collaborate and develop professional relationships with industry and governmental agencies; and/or supervise internships, co-ops, service learning and other student activities outside the classroom.

Different units deploy the talents of C/P faculty in different ways, and their promotion criteria should reflect those specifics.”
MENTORING

• Faculty-to-Student

“Commitment to active and responsive mentorship, as well as an active role in mentoring, advising and supporting the academic success of students and postdoctoral scientists, will also be documented as part of the process that defines tenure and promotion.”

• Range of skills and opportunities
  – Classes and labs, honors tutorials, TAs
  – Inclusion in your research group
  – Student organizations and activities
TIME TO TENURE

- Assistant Professors usually have probationary period of 7 years to earn P & T.
- 6th year is the “penultimate year:”
  - last year in which one is eligible for tenure
- Entering Associate Professors usually have a 4 year probationary period:
  - 3rd year is penultimate year
TENURE CLOCK EXTENSIONS

- When conditions and personal circumstances substantially interfere with progress toward promotion
- One-year *automatic approval* for birth or adoption of child
  - “Request for Tenure-Clock Extension” form
  - Submit within 1 year of occurrence, prior to penultimate year
  - Applies to either or both parents.
- Extensions also approved for:
  - Severe illness, disability, care-giving of family member
  - Delays in availability of lab space
  - COVID-19 headwinds
PROMOTION PROCESS AT PURDUE

Primary promotions committee (dept/school)
- Summer prior to penultimate year – assembles your promotion document, solicits outside letters
- Fall of penultimate year – votes on your case

Area promotions committee (college)
- Votes in late fall of penultimate year

Campus promotions committee (“Panel A”)
- Votes in winter of penultimate year
Clinical/Professional Faculty have a distinct path to promotion. They are considered by a different campus promotions panel (“Panel B”), which includes more clinical faculty.

- Procedures for Appointing and Promoting Clinical Faculty:

- Faculty development
RESEARCH FACULTY

• Research Faculty have a distinct path to promotion (but not tenure). They are considered by a different campus promotions panel (“Panel C”).

• Procedures for Appointing and Promoting Research Faculty:
  
  http://www.purdue.edu/policies/human-resources/vif8.html
2021-2022 PROMOTION AND TENURE

2021-2022 results:

• 129 tenure-track faculty were reviewed for promotion by all units, and 119 were ultimately approved for promotion
• 44/47 were successfully promoted to full Professor
• 75/82 were successfully promoted to Associate Professor
• 8 nominations did not get to the Campus Promotions Committee:
  Failed: 2 at area and 6 at primary committee
• 24/24 Clinical Faculty were promoted (18 Associate, 6 full)
• 2 Research Faculty were promoted
## 2021-2022 PROMOTION AND TENURE

By major area of focus, all promotions (# people)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Discovery</th>
<th>Engagement</th>
<th>Learning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Professor</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Discovery and Engagement</th>
<th>Discovery and Learning</th>
<th>Learning and Engagement</th>
<th>All three</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Professor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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KEYS TO FACULTY SUCCESS AND WELL-BEING

• **Start Early, Plan and Gather Information**
  - Get oriented to the institution, learning what is expected
  - Understand the promotion and tenure process
  - Begin and plan with the goal in mind

• **Start with your core responsibilities (research/teaching/engagement) and don’t lose focus!**
  - Seek excellence (as defined by your discipline)
  - Engagement and service increase over one’s career

• **Create work-life balance**
  - Find a sustainable rhythm
  - Be aware of supports and seek help and advice
  - Ask for what you need: clock extension, parental leave
Thank You!
TIME TO TENURE

• On the way to the penultimate year: contract renewals
• For Assistant Profs, the arrangement varies by college – examples:
  4y/2y/1y (Engineering/Krannert/Pharmacy),
  3y/1y/1y/1y/1y (Science/Agriculture),
  4y/3y (CLA), 3y/3y (Education)
• Should be specified in your contract/offer letter
• You and your unit head should take these seriously