

## **II. FACULTY RANKS AND THE CRITERIA FOR PROMOTION**

(Revised April 2, 2009)

### **A. Faculty Ranks**

#### **1. Instructor (effective January 1, 2003)**

Appointment to the tenure-track rank of instructor may be for one, two, or three years, renewable or not in accordance with the letter of contract. New members of the Faculty, beginning at the rank of instructor and without the doctorate who are awarded the doctor's degree during the academic year, are raised in rank at once to Assistant Professor. Further, if all the requirements for the degree are completed by March 1st, there is an automatic salary increment to the level specified in the contract letter, this sum being pro-rated during remaining pay-periods of the contract year.

#### **2. Assistant Professor**

Appointment or reappointment at the tenure-track rank of assistant professor generally shall be for three years and is renewable unless the letter of contract specifies otherwise. Promotion to this rank requires the following:

- Normally, the Ph.D or its equivalent.
- Demonstrated professional competence.
- Scholarly activity and professional alertness.

Procedures for reappointment as an Assistant Professor are described in Part III below.

#### **3. Associate Professor**

Those appointed initially to the rank of associate professor receive a three-year contract, renewable with or without tenure in keeping with the provisions for determining tenure. Two appointments at this rank may be regarded as conferring tenure unless the College indicates to the contrary. Appointment or promotion to this rank normally has these requirements:

- The Ph.D. or its equivalent.
- Outstanding performance as a teacher
- Mature scholarship recognized by the profession.
- Continuous and substantial service to the College.

Procedures for tenure reviews are described in Part IV below.

#### **4. Professor (effective February 2, 2000)**

Appointment to the rank of full professor from within the faculty of Union College automatically confers tenure if not already granted and is recognition of a sustained contribution to the educational programs of the College and an established professional competence. Appointments to this rank from outside the Faculty shall be for three years, and a decision on tenure shall be made no later than the second year of this appointment. Any appointment from outside the faculty at the rank of associate or full professor that carries with it tenure shall require the participation ex-officio on the department search committee of a senior member of the Faculty Review Board. That member normally should be from the same division to which the new appointment shall be

made. If, in the process of hiring for an advertised assistant OR associate and/or full professor, it becomes clear that a finalist may be appointed at a senior level, the department chair should contact the chair of the Faculty Review Board to coordinate the involvement of the Faculty Review Board.

Promotion to this rank normally requires these attainments:

- The Ph.D. or its equivalent.
- Excellent performance as a teacher since the tenure review.
- Continuing mature scholarship recognized by the profession and normally demonstrated in publications, exhibits, elections to office in national or international professional organizations, receipt of grants or awards, or similar marks of distinguished scholarly accomplishment.
- Continuing and sustained service to the College.

Review procedures for full-professor promotion reviews are described in Section B below.

## **5. Non Tenure-Track Appointments (effective Nov. 15, 1991)**

- a. All appointments require authorization of the position by the Dean of the Faculty.
- b. Visiting Faculty

Candidates who have the qualifications appropriate to the ranks as described in sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this section, but who are recommended for appointment to a temporary position without a tenure-track line, are designated as Visiting faculty. These appointments are normally for one, two, or three years. On occasion, a one- or two-year appointment may be made subsequent to the third year, but no individual may remain in a visiting position at the College for more than five years (teaching six courses a year) or after having taught a total of 30 courses as a full-time or part-time visitor. Review procedures for visiting faculty for whom an appointment is proposed beyond the third year are laid out in Part VI below.

Visiting faculty are eligible for faculty travel, faculty research funds, IEF grants, and participation in the governance system. The College allocates its funds for yearly raises, as well as special allocations, to all full-time faculty regardless of tenure-track or visiting status. Visiting faculty, however, do not participate in the triennial merit system.

- c. Lecturers, including Artists and Writers in Residence and Laboratory Coordinators (effective April 2006)

Lecturers are faculty members whose principal responsibilities are instructional and curricular, and which involve departmental or college service. The lecturer category includes writers and artists in residence and laboratory coordinators whose primary responsibility is teaching. These appointments do not include scholarship responsibilities, but include curricular-related programmatic support activities for the department. In the case of writers and artists in residence, the teaching load is usually less than full-time, the service requirement is normally fulfilled through writing and artistic activity, and no additional service is expected. Lecturers normally should possess the same minimum qualifications as ranked faculty, but the title “lecturer” may also be granted to a person of high repute in a field of endeavor related to an

academic discipline or to a person with significant professional experience relevant to the academic discipline. Appointment to the rank of Lecturer may be for one, two or three years, and may be renewable for terms not to exceed three years, subject to review and administrative approval. Lecturers are normally employed on a full-time contract basis, and shall have no expectation of an eventual tenure-track or tenured appointment.

#### Senior Lecturer

Departments may recommend for such promotions only those who are distinguished teachers and who make important contributions to their departments or to the college through service or co-curricular activities. A ~~Senior~~Lecturer must serve six years of full-time teaching (or the part-time equivalent of six years of full-time teaching) at Union College before being recommended for promotion. The Senior Lecturer rank is associated with demonstrated teaching excellence and commitment to departmental and college service. Department chairs nominate lecturers for promotion and submit supporting materials, including evidence of teaching and service excellence, to the Faculty Review Board, which can make a recommendation of promotion to the Dean of the Faculty.

Review procedures for appointment renewal for Lecturers and Senior Lecturers are laid out in Part VI below. Procedures for promotion to Senior Lecturer are laid out in section C below.

Lecturers are eligible for faculty travel, IEF grants, Humanities Faculty Development Grants, Faculty Research Fund grants, and participation in the governance system.

The total number of lecturer positions at the College will not exceed ten percent of the faculty, as reported to the Integrated Post-Secondary Data System (IPEDS).

#### d. Adjunct Faculty

For those individuals hired on a per course basis the term Adjunct is used. Appointments may be as Adjunct Instructor, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Adjunct Associate Professor, or Adjunct Professor, depending on qualifications.