PROMOTION AND TENURE

FACULTY MENTOR PROGRAM
Centre for Teaching and Learning

Jointly Presented by Western University and the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association

Faculty Collective Agreement
Clause References

- Promotion and Tenure Article:
  - indicated in parentheses, e.g., [6.5 d])

- Other Articles:
  - title of Article will also appear, e.g., Appointments 6.1

NOTE: clause references have been updated to reflect the 2018-2022 FCA. A working copy is currently posted on the Faculty Relations website and a final version will be posted within days.
Where do I find the best information to help me understand the Promotion and Tenure process?

- Promotion and Tenure Article, Faculty Collective Agreement:
  - http://uwo.ca/facultyrelations/ select the Faculty Collective agreement from the “Collective Agreements, Procedures & Conditions of Appointment” box.
  - http://uwofa.ca/collectiveagreements/ and click on “Faculty Collective Agreement”

- Attendance at mentoring sessions
- Discussion with multiple colleagues who have gone through the process
To whom does the *Promotion and Tenure* Article apply?

- Full-Time Members UWOFA Bargaining Unit:
  - Tenured Associate Professors (1)
  - Probationary Assistant and Associate Professors (1)
  - Limited-Term Assistant/Associate Professors with academic responsibilities in Teaching, Research and Service *(promotion only)* (1.1; *Academic Responsibilities* 2 - 7)
  - Basic Scientists in Clinical Departments [*Basic Scientists in Clinical Departments* 5 - 6.3 c)]
  - Externally-Funded appointees *(promotion only)* *(Appointments* 4.6)

(includes Joint Appointees)
Who can I go to for help?

- Dean, Chair, Director, colleagues, mentors, Faculty Association, Faculty Relations

- Most Faculties - experienced staff member responsible to provide assistance
What are the criteria used to decide if I am to be promoted and/or tenured?

Sufficiently strong record of performance in:

- Teaching (3.2.1; Academic Responsibilities 2)
  - may include material deemed by candidate to be relevant
  - evidence of teaching effectiveness such as peer reviews of teaching, as well as student experience in the classroom as reflected by data from Student Questionnaires on Courses and Teaching for all courses taught by the Member, where available.
  - shall include consideration of a Member’s submission in the File that speaks to accomplishments in Teaching beyond student responses to questionnaires and/or factors that may bias such student responses
What are the criteria used to decide if I am to be promoted and/or tenured?

- Sufficiently strong record of performance in:
  - Research [3.2.2; Academic Responsibilities 3 – 5 f)]
    - may include material deemed by candidate to be relevant including non-refereed articles, unpublished documents, work in progress, creative works – note: basis is “established” record so outcomes of Research activities not peer-reviewed will be weighted accordingly – may include research done prior to Western (3.2.2.1)
  - Service (3.2.3; 4.3.1.1, Academic Responsibilities 6,7)
    - administrative committee work, or other forms of significant Service which contribute to the University's functions.
    - Promotion to Professor where candidate has had significant Service Workload: Standard for Teaching and Research unchanged, but recognition that time taken to achieve the required record may have been longer
What is the significance attributed to each area?

- Criteria and relevant significance stated in Letter of Appointment (4.2, Appointments 6)

  - Normally:
    - Teaching and Research – approximately equal
    - Service – less than Teaching and Research
    - 40/40/20 balance is the norm

  - Alternative Workload, Reduced Workload:
    - may alter this balance (see respective Articles)
How can I best demonstrate my academic worth to this institution in a single 1” or 2” binder?

- Required Contents [7.3 – 7.4 g)]
  - 7.3 contents - maintained by Dean, or designate, of Home Faculty
  - 7.4 contents – candidate carries responsibility for providing items, except public solicitation and referee letters (new: Research statement provided by FM)

- Provide representative evidence of your established performance in Teaching, Research and Service (4)
Am I allowed to provide any explanation of my work?

- Written statement for File (optional) [7.4 f)]
  - especially important for those with more than one disciplinary area (e.g., joint appointees)
  - should be brief (e.g., two pages, if possible)

- Written statement for external referees (optional) [7.4 e) (vi)]
Teaching Dossier Policy indicates maximum page limit of 35, including maximum 20 pages of appendices.

- [https://teaching.uwo.ca/awardsdossiers/teachingdossiers.html](https://teaching.uwo.ca/awardsdossiers/teachingdossiers.html)
- consider condensing into one-page charts or graphs, where possible

- teaching philosophy statement – important item

- Centre for Teaching and Learning - mentoring session on constructing a Teaching Dossier – for dates check [https://teaching.uwo.ca/](https://teaching.uwo.ca/)
I have (or will have) Annual Review meetings. How important are these meetings?

- Very important

Purpose is to: [6.1]
- allow the Member to satisfy him/herself that s/he understands the expectations for meeting the criteria for tenure
- address the Member’s progress in generating a record of performance in each of Teaching, Research and Service sufficient to meet the criteria for Promotion and tenure
- discuss the Probationary member’s Annual Performance Evaluation, while recognizing that the criteria for APE are separate and distinct from the criteria for P&T
What else will be discussed?

- Letter of Appointment outlining expectations for meeting the criteria
  - copy inserted in Promotion and/or Tenure File [4.2, 7.3 b]

- Annual Performance Evaluation (see Annual Performance Evaluation Article) (5.1)
  - APE and P&T Processes are separate and distinct
  - APE assessments may not be predictive of success in promotion/tenure.
What else will be discussed?

- **Extenuating Circumstances**
  - Where the Member has experienced extenuating circumstances which require accommodation under the *Ontario Human Rights Code*, and which have limited the Member’s ability to fully perform the duties of his or her position for a prolonged period such that progress toward tenure is materially jeopardized, the Member may request the Employer consider granting an extension to the Member’s probationary Appointment. [16.7.2]

- This must happen as early as possible and evidence of need for accommodation must be provided.
Will I have someone with me?

- Academic Colleague or person appointed by the Association (6.1.1)
  - Dean must be notified in advance

- Ask questions. Be involved.
Are there minutes taken at these meetings?

☐ Written report provided by Dean, or designate (6.1.2 – 6.1.3) - will be added to File

☐ Your written response, if required - will be added to the File (6.1.4)
When will I be considered for Promotion and/or Tenure?

- Probationary Assistant Professor - normally considered in 6th year (16.4)

- Probationary Associate Professor - normally considered in 3rd year (16.2; Appointments 4.1)

- Limited-Term Assistant may apply in or after 5th year for Promotion (16.4.2)

- An automatic one year extension is provided if an approved leave of at least 24 weeks has been taken (e.g. Pregnancy/Parental, medical) but you can opt to come forward early.
Dean may initiate:

- Probationary - following consultation by March 31 with P&T Committee (16)

- Limited-Term – following consultation with Chair/Director and P&T Committee by next March 31 (16, 16.5.1)

Any other means of early review?

Continued…
Probationary Assistant:
- with outstanding record in Teaching and Research may request early consideration in 4th year (16.4)
  - must request in writing by March 31 of 3rd year

Limited-Term Assistant:
- with outstanding record in Teaching and Research may request consideration in 3rd year (16.4.2)
  - must request in writing by March 31 of year before consideration
What are my obligations with respect to external referees?

- List of possible referees – must be sent to Dean
  - describe qualifications and any prior interactions [7.4 e) (ii)]
  - Referee rank must be at least that to which candidate is being promoted to [7.4 e) (ii)]
What are my obligations with respect to external referees?

- If Dean adds names, you may object, in writing, to any addition.
  - objection will be included in the File [7.4 e) (ii)]
  - objection will be shown to Committee [7.4 e) (ii)]
How many names should I provide?

☐ Provide at least 12 names of possible “arm’s length” external referees

where possible, the number on the list should be at least three times the number of referees to be chosen, or if joint, three times the number of referees for each discipline [7.4 e) (ii); 7.4 e) (iv)]

☐ Practice varies across Faculties:
  ■ confirm number at Annual meeting before File is considered

Continued…
Collect names as you go:
- when attending conferences
- when reading the literature
- ask mentors for names of established scholars who have expertise in your discipline(s)
What does “arm’s length” mean?

- Someone who can assess your work but who is not, for example, a:
  - member of the University
  - relative or close personal friend
  - former graduate school teacher
  - thesis advisor or examiner
  - present or former student
  - present or former co-worker
  - co-author
  - grant collaborator
How many external referees are selected from the list?

- At least three arm’s length external referees
  - solicited by Dean
  - asked to assess your Research in relation to whether it meets the criteria for tenure [7.4 e])
  - their written opinions will be included in the File [7.4 e])

- Practice differs across Faculties
How is my performance reviewed?

- External Referees:
  - The referees have expertise in your discipline(s) and provide their assessments of your performance in Research [7.4 e)]

- Promotion and Tenure Committee
P&T Committee in Faculties with Departments/Schools (8)

- Dean or designate (chairs Committee but no vote except to break tie)
- Chair/Director
- 3 Tenured FTMs of Unit (elected by FTMs of Unit)
- 1 Tenured FTM from Faculty not in Unit (elected by Members on Faculty Council)
- 2 Tenured FTMs not appointed in Faculty with P&T Committee experience within last 5 years (elected by Members on Faculty Council)

Continued…
P&T Committee in Faculties without Departments/Schools (9)

- Dean or designate (chairs Committee but no vote except to break tie)

- 4 Tenured FTMs of Faculty (elected by Members on Faculty Council)

- 3 Tenured FTMs not appointed in Faculty with P&T Committee experience within last 5 years (elected by Members on Faculty Council)

Continued…
P&T Committee for Joint Appointees (10)

- Dean of Home Unit or designate (chairs Committee but no vote except to break tie)
- Dean of non-Home Unit or designate (no vote)
- 2 Unit heads (Chair/Director or Dean/designate)
- 3 members from each P&T Committee one of whom is not appointed in the Faculty (elected by members of the Committee)
an actual or apparent conflict of interest “that is of sufficient seriousness to compromise the integrity of a decision-making process” may arise between a P&T Committee member and a candidate

- Committee member must disclose to Dean and Dean shall adjudicate  
  *(Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment, 3)*

- Another person with knowledge may disclose to Dean before decision is made and Dean shall adjudicate  
  *(Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment, 3)*
The P&T Committee:
- reviews the entire File which you have signed off [7.4 g) – 7.4.1.1]
- evaluates whether or not you have established a sufficiently strong record of performance (17)
- ensures a uniformly high standard across the University (17)
- deliberates and arrives at a recommendation (15.3)
- votes on the Committee’s recommendation (15.3)

Continued…
Who else evaluates my work?

☐ The Dean:
  - The Dean or designate who chairs the Promotion and Tenure Committee, will make a separate recommendation (18)

☐ The Provost:
  - The Provost will review the File, consider the recommendations from the Committee and Dean, and make a final decision. The Provost may consult with the Vice-Provost (APPF) or the VP, Research and such consultations is documented to the file (19 -20)
What happens if the P&T Committee or Dean has questions or concerns about the record?

- The Committee or Dean may ask you to supply additional information.
  - You have two weeks to provide the additional information from the date of the request.
  - A copy of request and your response will become part of the File (17.1)
  - You may seek support of Academic Colleague or UWQFA representative (17.1)
What if Committee is considering a negative recommendation?

- The Committee will:
  - provide a written statement of concerns (17.1.1)
    - statement of concerns will be added to the File
  - invite you to a consultation meeting (17.1)
    - Must occur within two weeks of the request, subject to extension for extraordinary circumstances
    - you may request an Academic Colleague or UWOFSA Representative attend (17.1, 17.1.3)
  - provide time for you to prepare additional material for submission at the consultation
    - additional information will be added to the File (17.1.4)
If, after hearing the Committee’s concerns, I feel my tenure review will be unsuccessful, is there anything I can do at this point?

- You may withdraw your File from consideration by the Committee at any time prior to the Committee’s formulation of its recommendation (17.2 – 17.2.2)
What should I expect if the Provost has concerns?

- Provost may consult the Vice-Provost (APPF) or VP (Research) (19.1) and/or the Dean (19.2)

- If considered appropriate, Provost may return File to the Committee with a statement describing concerns
  
  - copy of concerns will be provided to you
  - you will have two weeks to provide any additional information to the Committee and the Provost (19.2)
What if the Provost is considering denial?

- File will be returned to Committee (19.3)
  - Copy of concerns will be provided to you
  - You will have two weeks to provide any additional information to the Committee and the Provost (19.3)
What happens if the Provost denies tenure?

- Choose not to grieve
  - entitled to one-year Limited-Term extension or 50% of salary in lieu of appointment extension (20.3.1)

- Choose to grieve
  - if you and Association are of view grounds exist (19.4.1 – 19.4.5) (see also *Grievance and Arbitration* Article)
    - Access to comparator files in most recent 5 years (19.4.1)
    - For a grievance in the final year of probation, the appointment is extended to the end of academic term in which the Arbitrator’s decision released (20.3)
Who do I contact if I have questions?

Office of Faculty Relations:

- Ella Forbes-Chilibeck, Director, Office of Faculty Relations, 83736
  eforcbsc@uwo.ca
- Andrew Boaden, Faculty Relations Consultant, 83027
  aboaden@uwo.ca
Who do I contact if I have questions?

- Faculty Association
  - Chair, Grievance Committee
    - Kathleen Fraser, 85641 kfraser@uwo.ca
  - UWOFA Professional Officer
    - Cindy Cossar-Jones, 86960 uwofapropro@uwo.ca
Responses from Member, Dean(s) and Committee to Provost’s Concerns (if applicable)
   Provost’s Written Statement of Concerns (if applicable)
   Dean’s Transmittal Letter to Provost
   Updated Table of Contents (at Dean’s option)
   Dean’s recommendation with reasons (both Deans, if Joint)
Committee recommendation with reasons (including any notes under Clause 15.2.1)
   Additional documentation provided by Member at consultation, if required
   Request for consultation, if required
   Additional information provided by Member, if required
   Request for additional information, if required
Table of Contents (signed by Member and Dean, or designate)
   Updated curriculum vitae
   Written submission from candidate relevant to case (optional)
   Teaching Dossier
Letters received from public solicitation on Member’s performance
   Letters from external referees
   Template of letter sent to external referees, package contents list, candidate’s statement
Signed list of potential external referees including any objection(s) from candidate
   Any arrangements under Collective Agreement (e.g., AWL, RR, Leaves)
Dean’s written report from April meetings plus Member’s response to report, if applicable
Copy of curriculum vitae provided with Annual Report unless updated by March 1
   Letter(s) of Appointment