

Department of Hospitality, Hotel Management and Tourism Guidelines for Faculty Evaluation

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1. Introduction

The Department of Hospitality, Hotel Management and Tourism values student success and support, societal and community impact, and industry engagement. Our internationally recognized, interdisciplinary faculty create, disseminate, and apply knowledge to benefit students, stakeholders, and partners locally and globally. We conduct innovative research and deliver high impact student-centered experiences. Appropriate evaluation guidelines and reward mechanisms for faculty members to support the mission are essential. This document is designed to provide a means to promote and thus retain faculty members whose excellence makes them beneficial members of the academy, while providing them with stability of employment.

The expectations of the Department of Hospitality, Hotel Management and Tourism for its faculty are that they develop a scholarly and balanced approach among research, teaching, and service to achieve effectiveness and excellence in their field of endeavor. The nature of scholarly innovation requires both flexibility and freedom, thus, the expectation of applying a single formula for evaluating performance is unattainable. That is, it is neither desirable nor feasible to specify a rigid set of evaluation guidelines ([University Rule 12.01.99.M1, Section 4.4.2.2](#)). Therefore, this document provides a general set of guidelines and criteria congruent with the mission of the [University](#) and the Unit; and such guidelines and criteria are used as indicators of effectiveness and excellence.

This document articulates general Unit guidelines for faculty, annual review, tenure and promotion, promotion, and post-tenure review, consistent with the requirements and guidelines found in the following University documents:

TITLE	LINK
12.01.01- Institutional Rules for Implementing Tenure	http://policies.tamus.edu/12-01-01.pdf
12.01.99.M1 - University Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure, and Promotion	https://rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/12.01.99.M1.pdf
12.06.99.M0.01 - Post-Tenure Review	https://policies.tamus.edu/12-06.pdf
Annual and Mid-Term Review Guidelines	https://facultyaffairs.tamu.edu/evaluation-development/annual-evaluation-and-mid-term-review.html
University Promotion and Tenure Guidelines (published annually)	https://facultyaffairs.tamu.edu/evaluation-development/promotion-tenure.html

In the event of inadvertent discrepancies between this document and Texas A&M University or Texas A&M University System policies, rules, and procedures, the University or System statements take precedence.

2. Faculty Tracks and Ranks

Definition of faculty ranks and tracks can be found at [University Rule 12.01.99 M1](#) and [University Guidelines to Faculty titles](#).

The ranks for AgriLife Research and AgriLife Extension faculty are defined in Texas A&M AgriLife Research Procedures [12.99.99.A0.03 Faculty Promotion](#) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service [Professorial Career Ladder System for Extension Specialist Faculty](#), respectively.

Tenured Professor. A tenured Professor should lead a research program in an agricultural/life science specialization incorporating scholarship related to hospitality, parks, tourism and/or recreation. A professor

should maintain national and international recognition and leadership through publication in refereed journals, presentations at regional, national and international meetings and participate in peer review; acquire external funding for research; provide leadership to interdisciplinary and interagency regional, state, national and international programs; and, when appropriate, collaborate with research programs at AgriLife research and extension center(s). The tenured Professor will contribute productively to the undergraduate and graduate programs of the Department through development and teaching of courses of high-quality; through advisement and mentoring of students; and by participation in the activities sponsored by the undergraduate program outside the classroom; and by participating in graduate dissertation committees and related activities. The tenured Professor will serve on committees in the Department and other college, university, and interdisciplinary programs as appropriate; provide service to professional societies that support the discipline; and provide a forum for networking among colleagues. Through these and other efforts the tenured Professor will contribute to an environment of collegiality and collaboration within the Department.

Tenured Associate Professor. A tenured Associate Professor should lead a research program in an agricultural/life science specialization incorporating scholarship related to hospitality, parks, tourism, and/or recreation. An Associate Professor should maintain national recognition and exhibit emerging leadership through publication in refereed journals, presentations at regional, national and international meetings and participation in peer review; strive to maintain external funding for research; provide leadership to regional, state, national and international programs; and, when appropriate, collaborate with AgriLife research and extension programs. The tenured Associate Professor will contribute productively to the undergraduate and graduate programs of the Department through development and teaching of courses of high-quality; through advisement and mentoring of students; and by participation in the activities sponsored by the undergraduate program outside the classroom; and by participating in graduate dissertation committees and related activities. The tenured Associate Professor will serve on committees in the Department and other college, university, and interdisciplinary programs as appropriate; provide service to professional societies that support the discipline; and provide a forum for networking among colleagues. Through these and other efforts the tenured Associate Professor will contribute to an environment of collegiality and collaboration within the Department.

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor. The tenure-track Assistant Professor will develop and lead a research program in an agricultural/life science specialization incorporating scholarship related to hospitality, parks, tourism and/or recreation. A tenure-track Assistant Professor will achieve national recognition through publication in refereed journals, presentations at regional, national and international meetings and participation in peer review; and develop research grant proposals and acquire external funding for research. The tenure-track Assistant Professor will, as appropriate, collaborate with AgriLife research and extension programs. The tenure-track Assistant Professor will develop and teach undergraduate and graduate courses in a related area of specialization, consistent with needs for the general departmental curriculum and the graduate program. Through these and related activities and by limited service on committees, the tenure-track Assistant Professor will contribute to an environment of collegiality and collaboration within the Department.

Instructional, Practice and Research Assistant Professors, Associate Professors or Professors. Faculty with these titles will make significant contributions in the area of teaching along with additional contributions to either an area of scholarly work or service as defined by the Department Head. Instructional and Practice positions often have responsibilities for field-based experiences and service learning as a part of their duties. Faculty with Research in the title will make significant contributions to scholarly research or creative work and will also contribute in a secondary way to teaching or service as defined by the Department Head. Service in these positions often includes serving on departmental, college and university level committees.

Principal Lecturer. Faculty with this title participate significantly in classroom teaching, primarily at the undergraduate level, in support of the educational goals of the Department for both departmental majors and non-majors in topics related to hospitality, parks, tourism and/or recreation; supervise and train graduate teaching assistants; contribute to student mentorship through office hours and other outside-the-classroom teaching opportunities as appropriate. Participate in service both in the department and in the larger university community.

Senior Lecturer. Faculty with this title participate in classroom teaching, primarily at the undergraduate level, in support of the educational goals of the Department for both departmental majors and non-majors in topics related to hospitality, parks, tourism and/or recreation; supervise and train graduate teaching assistants; contribute to student mentorship through office hours and other outside-the-classroom teaching opportunities as appropriate. Participate in service both in the department and in the larger university community.

Lecturer. Lecturers present lecture and/or field-based information in parks, tourism and/or recreation as appropriate. For lecture courses, specific duties and responsibilities include preparing and presenting lectures, writing and grading homework and examinations and assigning final grades. For field courses, duties and responsibilities include planning field-based experiences, projects, presenting lectures, grading assignments and exams, and assigning final grades. The position involves training and supervision of teaching assistants and service to the department.

3. Areas of Faculty Performance

(Reference [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#), Section 4.4.1)

Decisions on tenure, promotion, and merit compensation will be based upon the faculty member's performance in the assigned categories of performance (research, scholarly activity, and/or creative work; teaching; Extension; and service). Descriptions of faculty expectations in their assigned areas of faculty performance, as well as their evaluation, are presented below. Alternate work assignments (such as administration, etc.) may replace one or more areas in certain situations, but only with the written approval of the Department Head and Dean. Faculty with alternate work assignments will be reviewed based on assigned duties (including administrative assignments).

The areas of performance for AgriLife Research and AgriLife Extension faculty are defined in Texas A&M AgriLife Research Procedures [12.99.99.A0.03 Faculty Promotion](#) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service [Professorial Career Ladder System for Extension Specialist Faculty](#), respectively.

3.1. Research, scholarly activity or creative work

Research is critical to the mission of the College and a defining element of our University as a Research I institution. All faculty members with research appointments are expected to excel in research. Tenured and tenure-track faculty members are expected to be nationally/internationally recognized leaders in their areas of study with demonstrated impact that advances their field or be on a strong and sustained trajectory to attain national leadership status in the case for tenure-track faculty members. Effectiveness and excellence in research significantly affect decisions on merit compensation, tenure, and promotion for faculty members with research appointments.

Evaluation of research will be based on 1) how a faculty member has defined, developed and positioned their scholarship and field of study throughout their career to achieve impact; and 2) evidence that their leadership and impact in their field of scholarship compares favorably to accomplishments and reputation typical of leaders in their discipline and field of study. This impact should be supported by demonstrated success in securing competitive extramural funding from federal, state, private and/or

corporate funders; number, quality and impact of research publications in the leading journals; prestigious external awards and seminar invitations; number of citations and, where applicable, translational impacts. Leadership, impact and reputation in the faculty member's field should also be documented, for tenure/promotion, through peer evaluation letters from leaders in the same or closely related field from leading academic institutions. Leadership and impact should be demonstrated mainly from analysis of the content of the faculty member's work and how it has influenced and advanced their field of study.

3.2. Teaching

Teaching is central to the mission of the College, and effectiveness in teaching is required of all faculty. All faculty members are expected to: 1) contribute to instruction and student development; 2) continuously strive to improve their teaching effectiveness; and 3) promote and diversify the development of the College's instructional programs. Effectiveness and excellence in teaching affect decisions on merit compensation, tenure, and promotion.

Evaluation of teaching does not lend itself solely to quantitative measurement. Multiple sources of information and methods must be considered when assessing teaching. Student evaluations are required, but not sufficient to evaluate teaching. Other measures/sources of information may include: 1) self-evaluation; 2) peer-evaluation; 3) student feedback; and 4) student learning. The criteria to be considered in evaluating teaching effectiveness include, but are not limited to: knowledge of and enthusiasm for subject matter; skill, experience, and creativity with a range of appropriate pedagogies and technologies; understanding of and skill in using appropriate assessment practices; professional interactions with students within and beyond the classroom; mentoring of student research; and involvement with and contributions to one's profession in enhancing teaching and learning.

3.3. Service

Service is essential to the mission of the College, and effectiveness in service is required of all faculty. All faculty members are expected to engage effectively in service to their academic unit and the institution, to their profession, and to society. Effectiveness and excellence in service affect decisions on merit compensation, tenure, and promotion.

Evaluation of service should focus on the significance and impact of the service activities to the academic unit, the institution, the profession, and society. Excellence in service should document how service activities contribute to national and international reputation and recognition for the faculty member and Texas A&M.

4. Indicators of Faculty Excellence and Effectiveness

The Department of Hospitality, Hotel Management and Tourism recognizes that there are multiple indicators of various levels of performance. Additionally, performance and their respective indicators will vary over time for any individual at different career stages. This document does not provide a specific formula for evaluating faculty performance. However, it is possible to describe accomplishments that are most likely to lead to career development and to favorable evaluations. The sections that follow provide representative indicators of excellence and effectiveness for each performance area (examples provided in Appendix I of [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#)). All representative indicators listed may not apply to every faculty member and there may be other appropriate indicators.

The indicators of faculty excellence and effectiveness for AgriLife Research and AgriLife Extension faculty are defined in Texas A&M AgriLife Research Procedures [12.99.99.A0.03 Faculty Promotion](#) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Professorial Career Ladder System for Extension Specialist Faculty, respectively.

4.1. Indicators of Excellence in Research/Scholarly Activity/Creative Work

Indicators of ***Excellence in Research/Scholarly Activity/Creative Work*** may include, but are not limited to: publication of papers in leading journals of the discipline and books that synthesize the field; significant impact of scholarly (or creative) work on the discipline, such as high citation rates, innovations that influences the direction of the field, and significant translational impacts (including patents); significant success in securing competitive extramural funding from federal, private and corporate funders; invited oral presentations at peer institutions and national and international professional conferences; serving on review panels and committees of national or international research organizations; and selection for prestigious external awards and fellowships.

4.2. Indicators of Effectiveness in Research/Scholarly Activity/Creative Work

Indicators of ***Effectiveness in Research/Scholarly Activity/Creative Work*** may include, but are not limited to: publication of scholarly (or creative) work, such as peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, books in quality outlets; presentation of papers at national or international conferences or meetings as appropriate to the discipline; success in securing competitive extramural funding from federal, private and corporate funders; and significant professional development activities (e.g. Faculty Development Leave) that lead to increased research and publication effectiveness.

4.3. Indicators of Excellence in Teaching

Indicators of ***Excellence in Teaching*** may include, but are not limited to: outstanding teaching performance as evidenced by peer reviews, student satisfaction, and student outcomes; innovations in pedagogical/course design; development and effective implementation of high impact learning experiences; effective practice of pedagogies and creating learning environments to support the success of all students; publication of widely adopted or acclaimed instructional materials (textbook, case studies, etc.); publication of research on disciplinary teaching and learning (SoTL); receiving external grant support for teaching/learning projects; outstanding performance in graduate and undergraduate student mentoring as evidenced by student outcomes (presentations, publications, grants, awards, time to degree, placements, etc.); invited presentations on teaching and learning at academic institutions and national/international conferences; significant efforts in peer mentoring in teaching or professional development in teaching as a facilitator; significant contributions to curriculum development efforts of the academic unit; active engagement in educational reforms at the institutional and national levels; and recognition of excellence by teaching awards at college or university levels, and national/international teaching awards from academic societies and other organizations.

4.4. Indicators of Effectiveness in Teaching

Indicators of ***Effectiveness in Teaching*** may include, but are not limited to: effective teaching performance, as evidenced by peer reviews, student satisfaction and student outcomes; employing evidence-based pedagogical practices and course designs; development of new courses or major revision of existing courses; practice of pedagogies and creating learning environments to support the success of all students; effective graduate and undergraduate student mentoring as evidenced by student outcomes (presentations, publications, grants, awards, time to degree, placements, etc.); receiving competitive internal or extramural funding for teaching/learning projects; participation in curriculum development and improvement efforts of the academic unit; significant professional development activities leading to enhanced teaching effectiveness; and selection for a departmental, college or university teaching award.

4.5. Indicators of Excellence in Extension

Indicators of **Excellence in Extension** may include but are not limited to: evidence of national/international program recognition; publication of peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals; acquisition of significant extramural funding; invited presentations at professional meetings; evidence of significant impact of Extension program; Extension awards.

4.6. Indicators of Effectiveness in Extension

Indicator of **Effectiveness in Extension** may include but are not limited to: effective delivery of Extension programs to clientele; submission of proposals for support of Extension programs; publication of Extension bulletins or reports; presentations at professional and industry meetings.

4.7. Indicators of Excellence in Service

Indicators of **Excellence in Service** may include, but are not limited to: leadership roles in service to the institution, such as chairing major college/university standing or ad hoc committees, being an officer of the Faculty Senate or Council of Principal Investigators, and serving in a college/university administrative leadership role; leadership roles in service to the profession, such as being an officer in a national or international professional organization, serving as program chair at a national or international conference, and serving as editor or member of editorial board of a major journal in the discipline; significant service to society, such as serving on a major governmental commission, task force, committee, or board, and providing exceptional professional services to the local community and public at large; significant professional development activities that lead to enhanced service effectiveness.

4.8. Indicators of Effectiveness in Service

Indicators of **Effectiveness in Service** may include, but are not limited to: effective service to the institution, such as serving on college/university and department committees and task forces, being an active member of the Faculty Senate or Council of Principal Investigators, serving in administrative roles or as a committee chair in the department, and serving as an advisor to student organizations; effective service to the profession, such as being a committee chair in national or international professional organization, being an officer in regional or state professional organization, serving as program chair for regional professional conference, and serving as a reviewer for major refereed journals or as an ad hoc reviewer for national research organizations; effective service to society, such as providing consultation to governmental agencies, and providing professional services to the local community and public at large; professional development activities that lead to enhanced service effectiveness.

5. Criteria for Promotion and/or Tenure

5.1. Evaluation Criteria for Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty

Faculty members should be evaluated for promotion and tenure on accomplishments in each of their areas of faculty performance (research/scholarly activity/creative work, teaching, and service), with primary emphasis on the **quality, significance, and impact** of their work. For promotion and/or tenure, in addition to meritorious accomplishments, a high potential for continued excellence is required. Documentation of excellence is best provided by peer review. The criteria for the Department of Hospitality, Hotel Management and Tourism are described in the sections below.

Evaluation criteria for promotion of AgriLife Research and AgriLife Extension faculty are described in Texas A&M AgriLife Research Procedures [12.99.99.A0.03 Faculty Promotion](#) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service [Professorial Career Ladder System for Extension Specialist Faculty](#), respectively.

5.1.1. For promotion to Assistant Professor

Faculty members holding a tenure-accruing appointment with the rank of Instructor will be promoted to the rank of assistant professor upon the receipt of the terminal degree.

5.1.2. For promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

The decision regarding promotion from assistant professor to associate professor is tied to the tenure decision (i.e. if an individual is deemed promotable, he/she must be qualified for tenure. Similarly, if an individual is deemed tenurable, he/she must be qualified for promotion). The benchmark guidelines below, when not defined specifically, are considered averages and define a satisfactory level of performance.

1. Scholarship. Excellence in Research (see indicators described in 4.1) is an expectation of tenure-track faculty seeking tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Tenure-track faculty are expected to demonstrate independence in scholarship, demonstrate meaningful and nationally recognized impact in their field of research and be recognized as leaders in their field of study, or be on a strong and sustained trajectory to attain national leadership status. Except in the discipline of education, scholarship of teaching and learning should be secondary to scholarship in the research discipline. Collaborative work is encouraged where each member of the group documents their major and independent contribution to the impact of the research. The applicants for promotion should have advanced their field nationally and internationally, demonstrated by specific examples. The expectation for most faculty is a strong record of papers in refereed publications by the end of their fifth year of the probationary period when documentation is submitted to initiate the tenure and promotion process. Of these a preponderance of publications should be in top journals. It is emphasized that this quantification range is a guideline and not a norm, since it is recognized that quantity of publications is not necessarily an accurate indicator of scholarship contributions. While publications are important, the primary criterion for promotion from assistant to associate professor is not publication activity, it is the demonstration of an emerging impact of these publications and research activity in the field.

The candidate should demonstrate that his/her scholarly work is having an impact on the field. This will be evaluated by the number and quality of citations of authored works (e.g., h-index and i10-index) and the extent to which one's scholarship has influenced industry, agency, or organizational practices. The identified impact metrics will be evaluated considering the metrics of scholars of comparable academic maturity, research interest, and institutional affiliation. If the promotion and tenure committee deem it helpful to identify scholars for comparison the candidate will be given the opportunity for input into their selection.

Given the range of specializations and disciplinary backgrounds of HMGT faculty, it is recognized that some will publish in interdisciplinary/cross-disciplinary journals, and in journals in other fields and disciplines. Publications recognized in those disciplines are considered to be equally as meritorious as those in the "mainline" HMGT journals. In those cases, the ranking of journals will be that used by the department on the Texas A&M campus most closely associated with that discipline.

Some of the published work is likely to emanate from a dissertation. Also, the move to a new context and different culture at Texas A&M may result in a shift in research focus and some exploration in developing a program of research. Thus, the CV at the end of the five-year period may show some range of topic areas. However, there should be evidence that a coherent research program is emerging by the end of the fifth year.

2. Teaching. Effectiveness in teaching and a commitment to excellence in teaching (see indicators

described in 4.3 and 4.4) are expected of all tenure-track faculty. Teaching excellence is also demonstrated through mentoring of student research. Teaching effort and load should be documented and reviewed. Teaching course load and assignments should be consistent with the teaching effort associated with the faculty member's appointment, which may vary across disciplines nationally. Mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students should also be documented. A high quality of teaching is expected in the formal setting of the undergraduate and graduate classroom. Four criteria are used to measure teaching quality.

a. *Student Evaluations.* By the end of the five-year period, the expectation is that student scores should improve in the area of teaching effectiveness on the student course evaluation reports. Some faculty may have had relatively little teaching experience before being hired by Texas A&M, so their scores may be lower in the early years. It is expected that all faculty at the assistant professor level will take advantage of the assistance the university offers to improve their teaching performance. This assistance, and five years of experience in the classroom, are the vehicles through which low performance may be raised to meet the expected standard.

b. *Peer Evaluation.* Each year, one member of the Tenure and Promotion Committee will attend a class of each non-tenured faculty member and provide him/her with a written evaluation of the performance. The written evaluation will become part of the faculty member's personnel file.

c. *Teaching Portfolio.* The portfolio will include the outlines, structures, and proceedings of each course taught and address pedagogical approaches used to promote student learning, engagement, and motivation. The portfolio will be sent to external reviewers with expertise in the content area to evaluate the appropriateness and relevance of content being taught and pedagogy employed.

d. *Innovative Classroom Materials.* Creative materials that contribute to academic programs beyond the context of an individual's teaching. These may include textbooks if their quality is demonstrated to be superior to that of other available materials. An awarded grant for curriculum development, student development or academic programming may be another example which extends the teaching contribution beyond the specific teaching program of the individual.

3. Service. Effectiveness in service and a commitment to excellence in service (see indicators described in 4.5 and 4.6) are expected of all tenure-track faculty. This includes service within the institution and externally. Service is related to responsively serving in areas internal and external to the department and university. Internally it is important to be a "good citizen" of the department, college, and university by serving on committees, participating in the departmental mentoring program, task forces, review boards etc. External service refers to responsively serving the needs of constituents external to the university. This may be exemplified by publications in popular magazines, textbooks, technical publications, or contract reports; by presentations and workshops to professional constituent or general citizen groups; or similar activities. It may also include serving on editorial boards or in leadership roles for professional organizations. It does not include service to a community in a citizen role. For example, personal (as opposed to professional) involvement with political, commercial, religious, non-profit, et al institutions is not relevant to the evaluation of service performance.

4. Professional integrity is exemplified by showing respect for colleagues; professional conduct conducive to a collegial work environment; and adhering to expected standards of academic integrity. Section 3 of the university's "Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure and Promotion" offers an expanded, more detailed description of the expectations associated with this criterion

5. Acquisition of funds from sources external to the department. The acquisition of funds is an integral

part of an individual's scholarship contribution. Funds may be from competitive fellowships, grants or contracts, and should be used to support graduate students. A faculty member's transition to Texas A&M University may make it difficult to acquire external funds in the first two years. This is a period in which networks have to be created, a research program defined, and an understanding of the state and university culture has to be nurtured. However, by the end of the fifth year, an emerging and growing record of external funds is expected. As a guideline, the expectation is one or more successfully funded external grants or contracts that provide sound evidence of funding potential and a record of supporting one graduate student per year in at least the last two probationary years. In the case of a project involving multiple principal investigators, the proportion of the project for which the candidate is responsible should be identified. It is recognized that external funding is more accessible to those working in some areas of the field than in others so metrics should be regarded as guidelines and not as norms. Yet, there is an expectation that candidates will apply for a minimum of one grant per year.

6. Establishment and effective mentoring of a cadre of graduate students. The university's guidelines indicate that outstanding direction of graduate research, mentoring, and chairing graduate research committees are key criteria that should be used to evaluate teaching performance. Accordingly, there should be evidence that graduate students are attracted to the candidate's research program and recognize his/her mentoring talents. Thus, by the end of the fifth year, the guideline expectation is that a candidate will be chairing, or have successfully chaired graduate committees, and will be a member of others.

7. National/international reputation. An emerging national/international reputation in an area of expertise is expected. Evidence of a national/international reputation is based on receipt of honors and awards, invitations to participate in national/international symposia, editorship of scholarly journals, serving in positions of leadership in professional societies, and importance ascribed to scholarly publications by colleagues and senior faculty members at other peer institutions.

5.1.3. For promotion from Associate Professor to Professor

Many of the benchmarks listed in this subsection as criteria for promotion to the professor rank are extensions of those listed in 5.1.2 as criteria for tenure and promotion to associate professor. Thus, 5.1.2 should be reviewed first to fully comprehend the benchmarks listed in this section.

1. Scholarship. Excellence in Research (see indicators described in 4.1) is an expectation of tenured Associate Professors seeking promotion to Professors. They are expected to be recognized leaders nationally and for most fields internationally who demonstrate impact that has advanced their field. It is incumbent on applicants for promotion to clearly define their field of research/scholarship and its relevance, value and impact for the department, TAMU/TAMUS, the State of Texas, the nation, and the world. The applicants for promotion should provide specific examples of how they have advanced their field nationally and internationally; activity alone is not a sufficient measure of impact. Leadership and impact of research should grow and broaden in scope throughout the faculty member's career. The guideline expectation for most faculty is that the record will show *a strong record of* publications in peer reviewed journals, with a preponderance of them in top journals. In the case of faculty members from disciplines where the convention is to publish good scholarship in other types of outlets, counsel will be solicited from senior scholars in those disciplines to ascertain guidelines for the quality and quantity of published scholarship expected for promotion to the Professor rank.

The publication record will reflect a coherent, long-term research program. It will be the manifestation of major accomplishment in enhancing the state of knowledge in a defined research area in which the candidate has earned a national/international reputation.

The candidate will be a senior author on most of the publications. This does not necessarily mean he/she will be the first author listed. Often the first author will be a graduate student, and when cross-disciplinary faculty teams are involved, credits have to be shared appropriately. Senior authorship means that an individual played a central role in conceptualizing, funding, guiding, implementing, interpreting and writing-up the work.

The candidate should demonstrate that his/her scholarly work is having an impact on the field. This will be evaluated by the number and quality of citations of authored works (e.g., h-index and i10-index) and the extent to which one's scholarship has influenced industry, agency, or organizational practices. The identified impact metrics will be evaluated considering the metrics of scholars of comparable academic maturity, research interest, and institutional affiliation. Candidates and the promotion and tenure committee will have the opportunity to nominate scholars for comparison. As a guide, as of 2019, candidates being promoted from Associate to Professor over the preceding five years had approximate average H- and I-index scores of 25 and 40, respectively. While publications are important, the primary criterion for promotion to Professor is not publication activity, it is the impact of these publications on the field.

2. Teaching. Effectiveness in teaching and a commitment to excellence in teaching (see indicators described in 4.3 and 4.4) are expectations of all tenured faculty. Teaching excellence is also demonstrated through mentoring of student research. Teaching effort and load should be documented and reviewed. Teaching course load and assignments should be consistent with the teaching effort associated with the faculty member's appointment, which may vary across disciplines nationally. Mentoring of undergraduate and graduate students should also be documented. Impact of teaching should grow throughout the faculty member's career. The high standard of teaching exemplified at the time of promotion to associate professor has continued.

3. Service. Effectiveness in service and a commitment to excellence in service (see indicators described in 4.5 and 4.6) are an expectation of all tenured faculty. This includes service within the institution and externally. Leadership and the impact of service should grow throughout the faculty member's career. A record of service to the profession internally and externally to the university will continue after promotion to associate professor. Internally it is important to be a "good citizen" of the department, college, and university by serving on committees, the department's mentoring program, task forces, review boards etc. Serving constituents external to the university may be exemplified by publications in popular magazines, textbooks, technical publications, or contract reports; by presentations and workshops to professional constituent or general citizen groups; or similar activities. It may also include serving on editorial boards or in leadership roles for professional organizations. It does not include service to a community in a citizen, rather than in a professional, role. For example, personal (as opposed to professional) involvement with political, commercial, religious, non-profit, et al institutions are not relevant to the evaluation of service performance.

4. Professional integrity and responsibility is exemplified by showing respect for colleagues and this respect being reciprocated; professional conduct conducive to a collegial work environment; adhering to expected standards of academic integrity; and being a "good citizen" of the department, college, and university by serving on committees, task forces etc.

5. Acquisition of funds from sources external to the department. A consistent on-going record is expected in acquiring external resources from multiple sources. These efforts should have resulted in the support of at least one graduate student a year on a consistent basis and support money to carry out research projects.

6. Establishment and effective mentoring of a cadre of graduate students. The guideline expectation is that the candidate would have successfully chaired and seen to completion several graduate students, with a representation of both master's and doctoral candidates. At the master's level, these students would be placed in good managerial positions, while at the doctoral level a preponderance of them would hold university professorial positions. The quality of former students' research work would be manifested in it being published in peer-reviewed research outlets.

7. National/international reputation. A national/international reputation in an area of expertise is expected. Evidence of a national/international reputation is based on receipt of honors and awards, invitations to participate in international symposia, editorship of scholarly journals, serving in positions of leadership in professional societies, appointment, or election to professional and/or honorary societies, importance ascribed to scholarly publications by colleagues and senior faculty at other peer institutions.

5.2. Evaluation Criteria for Academic Professional Track Faculty (Non-Tenure Track)

For appointment and promotion in the academic professional track (non-tenure track), faculty members should be evaluated in their assigned areas of faculty performance. Faculty with Instructional or Practice in their title will be evaluated with a primary emphasis on the quality and impact of their teaching. Faculty with Research in their title will be evaluated with a primary emphasis on the quality and impact of their research/scholarly/creative work activities. For promotion, in addition to meritorious accomplishments, a high potential for continued excellence is expected for Academic Professional Track Faculty.

5.2.1. For Promotion from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer

- **Teaching:** Excellence in teaching and a high potential for continued excellence are expected of Lecturers seeking promotion to Senior Lecturer. Teaching excellence can be demonstrated with meritorious teaching performance as evidenced by peer reviews, student satisfaction, and student outcomes; innovations in pedagogical/course design; development and effective implementation of high impact learning experiences; presentations on teaching and learning at academic institutions and professional conferences; recognition of excellence by internal and external teaching awards; continued professional development in teaching, and other appropriate indicators as described in 4.3.

5.2.2. For Promotion from Senior Lecturer to Principal Lecturer

Teaching: Excellence in teaching and a high potential for continued excellence are expected of Lecturers seeking promotion to Senior Lecturer. Teaching excellence can be demonstrated with outstanding teaching performance as evidenced by peer reviews, student satisfaction, and student outcomes; innovations in pedagogical/course design; development and effective implementation of high impact learning experiences; presentations on teaching and learning at academic institutions and professional conferences; recognition of excellence by internal and external teaching awards; continued professional development in teaching, and other appropriate indicators as described *in 4.3. Excellence* and impact in teaching should grow throughout the faculty member's career.

5.2.3. For Promotion from Instructional Assistant Professor (or Assistant Professor of the Practice) to Instructional Associate Professor (or Associate Professor of the Practice)

- Based on their appointment, candidates will need to exceed expectations in two of three areas (teaching and either research or service).
- **Teaching:** Excellence and effectiveness in teaching and a high potential for continued excellence and effectiveness are expected of an Instructional Assistant Professor or Assistant Professor of the

Practice seeking promotion to Instructional Associate Professor or Associate Professor of the Practice, respectively. Teaching excellence and effectiveness should be demonstrated based on appropriate indicators described in 4.3 and 4.4.

- a. *Student Evaluations.* By the end of the five-year period, the expectation is that student scores should improve in the area of teaching effectiveness on the student course evaluation reports. Less than 5 years will be considered in unusually exceptional cases. Some faculty may have had relatively little teaching experience before being hired by Texas A&M, so their scores may be lower in the early years. It is expected that all Instructional Assistant Professors will take advantage of the assistance the university offers to improve their teaching performance. This assistance, and five years of experience in the classroom, are the vehicles through which low performance may be raised to meet the expected standard.
 - b. *Peer Evaluation.* Each year, one member of the Tenure and Promotion Committee will attend a class of each non-tenured faculty member and provide him/her with a written evaluation of the performance. The written evaluation will become part of the faculty member's personnel file.
 - c. *Teaching Portfolio.* The portfolio will include the outlines, structures, and proceedings of each course taught and address pedagogical approaches used to promote student learning, engagement, and motivation. The portfolio will be sent to external reviewers with expertise in the content area to evaluate the appropriateness and relevance of content being taught and pedagogy employed.
 - d. *Innovative Classroom Materials.* Creative materials that contribute to academic programs beyond the context of an individual's teaching. These may include textbooks if their quality is demonstrated to be superior to that of other available materials. An awarded grant for curriculum development, student development or academic programming may be another example which extends the teaching contribution beyond the specific teaching program of the individual.
 - e. *Grant Writing.* It is expected that all Instructional Assistant Professors will write grants related to teaching (e.g., Innovative Teaching Grants).
- **Service:** Effectiveness in service and a commitment to excellence in service (see indicators described in 4.5 and 4.6) are an expectation of Instructional Assistant Professors or Assistant Professors of the Practice seeking promotion for whom service is the assigned secondary duty. Service efforts may involve curriculum development, participation in the department's mentoring program, program supervision, ensuring program accreditation and other service activities that are critical to the teaching mission of the department or program. Significant service contributions to the institution and profession are expected and these contributions can often have strong synergies with their efforts in teaching.
 - **Research:** For whom research is the assigned secondary duty, effectiveness in research and a commitment to excellence in research (see indicators described in 4.1 and 4.2) are an expectation of the Instructional Assistant Professors or Assistant Professors of the Practice seeking promotion

5.2.4. For Promotion from Instructional Associate Professor (or Associate Professor of the Practice) to Instructional Professor (or Professor of the Practice)

- Based on their appointment, candidates will need to exceed expectations in two of the three (teaching, research, and service) areas below.

- **Teaching:** Excellence and effectiveness in teaching and a high potential for continued excellence and effectiveness are expected of an Instructional Associate Professors or Associate Professor of the Practice seeking promotion to Instructional Professor or Professor of the Practice, respectively. Teaching excellence and effectiveness should be demonstrated based on appropriate indicators described in 4.3 and 4.4. Leadership and impact in teaching and scholarship of teaching should grow and broaden in scope throughout the faculty member's career.
 - a. *Student Evaluations.* By the end of the five-year period, the expectation is that student scores should improve in the area of teaching effectiveness on the student course evaluation reports related to teaching (e.g., Innovative Teaching Grants).
 - b. *International Reputation.* Consonant with TAMU's expectations of excellence at the Professor rank, it is expected that candidates will have an established international reputation as a leading teacher in their area of expertise. This may include teaching abroad courses, but the major sources of evidence of this expertise are likely to include leadership roles in international teaching conferences such as keynote addresses or holding elected officer positions, publications in leading journals documenting examples of teaching excellence and innovation, and multiple invitations to speak on teaching at leading institutions abroad.
- **Service:** Effectiveness in service and a commitment to excellence in service (see indicators described in 4.5 and 4.6) are an expectation of Instructional Associate Professors or Associate Professors of the Practice seeking promotion for whom service is the assigned secondary duty. Service efforts may involve curriculum development, participation in the department's mentoring program, program supervision, ensuring program accreditation and other service activities that are critical to the teaching mission of the department or program. Significant service contributions to the institution and profession are expected and these service contributions should have strong synergies with their efforts in teaching. Leadership and the impact of service should grow throughout the faculty member's career.
- **Research:** Effectiveness in research and a commitment to excellence in research (see indicators described in 4.1 and 4.2) are an expectation of the Instructional Associate Professors or Associate Professors of the Practice seeking promotion for whom research is the assigned secondary duty. Leadership and impact in research should grow and broaden in scope throughout the faculty member's career.

6. Annual Review

Annual reviews of performance are to be conducted in accordance with Section 2.4 of [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#) (University Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure, and Promotion).

All University-employed faculty members, whether tenured, tenure-track, or non-tenure track, must have an annual written review, for which the department heads, directors, or supervisors are responsible.

In terms of annual reviews for budgeted joint appointments, department heads, directors, or supervisors will need to collaborate with the heads, directors, or supervisors of the appropriate units to develop accurate reviews, (Section 2.4.4 of [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#) University Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure and Promotion).

In the case of budgeted joint appointments, it is recommended that heads, directors and supervisors collaborate to provide one annual review letter for the faculty member.

In terms of annual reviews for faculty whose area of responsibility is administrative (e.g., associate deans, department heads, or directors), annual reviews will be conducted by their immediate supervisor. For a faculty member with an administrative appointment that has faculty responsibilities such as teaching and/or research, the immediate supervisor is required to solicit feedback from the department head, director, or supervisor regarding the faculty member's performance in those areas. Faculty with administrative appointments equal to or less than 25% effort are to be evaluated annually by their department head, director, or supervisor with input from the supervisor of the administrative appointment. A faculty member should receive only one evaluation that covers all areas of responsibility.

Guidelines for annual reviews of AgriLife Research and AgriLife Extension faculty are in Texas A&M AgriLife Research Procedures [12.99.99.A0.01 Faculty Performance Review](#) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service [Professorial Career Ladder System for Extension Specialist Faculty](#), respectively.

6.1. Purpose

- Provide evaluative feedback regarding the faculty member's performance relative to the expectations and norms for the individual's faculty position.
- Provide developmental feedback regarding areas where the faculty member's contributions may be enhanced and/or improved.
- Provide feedback regarding progress toward promotion and/or tenure as relevant.
 - See [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#). For associate professors, the process should be used to identify the faculty member's progress toward promotion to professor. For professors and associate professors the annual review should also be part of the ongoing process of communication between the faculty member and the institution in which both institutional and individual goals and programmatic directions are clarified, the contributions of the faculty member toward meeting those goals are evaluated and the development of the faculty member and the University is enhanced. In all cases, the annual review shall serve as the primary documentation for evaluation of job performance in the areas of assigned responsibility and for merit salary increases.
- Create a sound and logical basis for merit compensation recommendations.

6.2. Focus

The focus of the annual review process will vary by title and rank and the stage of the individual's career at the time of the review. For tenured faculty, the annual review evaluates continued effective and/or excellent performance, and where relevant, progress toward the next promotion. For tenure-track faculty, the annual review serves as an assessment of progress toward tenure and promotion. For academic professional track faculty (non-tenure track), the annual review evaluates performance and serves as assessment of progress towards retention and/or promotion, as applicable, section 2.4.2 of [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#) (University Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure and Promotion).

6.3. Time Period of Review

Annual reviews will focus on the immediately previous calendar year.

6.4. Criteria for Rating Faculty Performance

During an annual evaluation, performance in each of the areas of faculty performance (see Section 4) will be rated on five categories: "Unsatisfactory," "Needs Improvement," "Meets Expectations," "Exceeds Expectations," and "Meritorious" based on evidence of **effectiveness** and **excellence**. Overall performance will also be described using these terms. In the Workday system where faculty annual

evaluations are loaded, the five ratings are equivalent at “Does Not Meet Expectations,” “Partially Meets Expectations,” “Meets Expectations,” “Exceeds Expectations,” and “Significantly Exceeds Expectations,” respectively.

6.4.1. Performance ratings to be used for annual evaluation of Research/Scholarly Activity/Creative Work

- Unsatisfactory – the absence of significant evidence of **effectiveness** in research/scholarly activity based on the indicators described in 4.2.
- Needs Improvement – minimal evidence of **effectiveness** in research/scholarly activity. Individuals receiving this rating will have limited evidence of research/scholarly impact as supported by, for example, funding, manuscripts, citations, presentations, book chapters, or other indicators described in 4.2.
- Meets Expectations – strong evidence of **effectiveness** in research/scholarly activity. Effectiveness must be supported by, for example, high quality manuscripts, grants, presentations, citations, or other indicators described in 4.2.
- Exceeds Expectations – strong evidence of both **effectiveness** and **excellence** in research/scholarly activity. Faculty in this category will be nationally recognized for their research/scholarly activity. Examples of this evidence might include quality publications, funding, citations, and invited presentations and other indicators described in 4.1.
- Meritorious – those receiving the meritorious rating would have nearly all the attributes of an **exemplary** faculty member based on indicators described in 4.1. In addition, these faculty members would be nationally or internationally recognized as scholarly leaders through consistent publication in top tier journals, field-changing awards for excellence in scholarship, and election to scientific societies or academies.

6.4.2. Performance ratings to be used for annual evaluation of Teaching

- Unsatisfactory – the absence of significant evidence of **effectiveness** in teaching based on indicators described in 4.4.
- Needs Improvement – minimal evidence of **effectiveness** in teaching. Individuals receiving this rating may have areas needing improvement in mentorship, success of students, didactic/laboratory teaching, or other indicators described in 4.4.
- Meets Expectations – appropriate evidence of **effectiveness** in teaching. Effectiveness can be supported by peer review, student evaluations, and accomplishments of trainees, and other indicators described in 4.4.
- Exceeds Expectations – strong evidence of both **effectiveness** and **excellence** in teaching. Faculty in this category will be outstanding educators as evidenced by peer review, evaluations, awards for education, and trainee accomplishments and other indicators described in 4.3. Many will contribute to novel educational methodologies and curricular development.
- Meritorious – those receiving the most meritorious rating would have nearly all the attributes of an **exemplary** faculty member based on indicators described in 4.3. In addition, these faculty members would be nationally or internationally recognized as educators through their leadership, receipt of awards, and/or solicited involvement in professional organizations.

Regardless of the weighting of a faculty member’s teaching assignment, sufficient evidence of **effectiveness** is the minimum requirement for **satisfactory performance**. The unit should have a

conversation about what would constitute sufficient (appropriate) evidence, and by implication, minimal and strong evidence in order to evaluate fairly the members of the unit.

6.4.3. Performance ratings to be used for annual evaluation of Service

- Unsatisfactory – the absence of significant evidence of **effectiveness** in service based on indicators described in 4.8.
- Needs Improvement – minimal evidence of **effectiveness** in service based on indicators described in 4.8. Individuals receiving this rating typically have limited involvement with the respective unit and an absence of extra unit service. Criteria may depend on the rank and stage of the faculty member.
- Meets Expectations – adequate evidence of **effectiveness** in service based on indicators described in 4.8. Those in this category will be involved in local service appropriate for their career stage and time assignment and often will have evidence of national service, again, considering the career stage and time assignment.
- Exceeds Expectations – strong evidence of both **effectiveness** and **excellence** in service based on indicators described in 4.7. Faculty in this category will successfully engage in impactful local service activities such as chairing committees, partaking in significant administrative duties, and/or leading mentorship and outreach efforts. Prominent national level service in professional organizations (e.g., officer or chair) would be typical.
- Meritorious – those receiving the most meritorious rating would have nearly all the attributes of an **exemplary** faculty member based on indicators described in 4.7. These faculty members would be nationally or internationally recognized for service through their leadership, receipt of service awards, and/or solicited involvement in prominent professional organizations.

6.5. Required Components

The annual review must contain the following components in accordance with Section 2.4.5 of [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#), (University Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure and Promotion).

6.5.1. Faculty member's report of previous activities.

Faculty will complete a standardized annual activity report in Interfolio Faculty180.

- The report should be focused on the previous calendar year and an expanded window but should allow a faculty member to point out the status of long-term projects and set the context in which annual activities have occurred.
- The report should incorporate research/scholarly activity/creative work, teaching, and service as appropriate.
- Faculty members should state their short-term and long-term goals and/or objectives.

In addition, faculty should submit a plan of work for the coming calendar year, curriculum vitae, a copy of student evaluations of teaching performance, and a peer review of teaching report (assistant professors only).

For examples see Section 2.4.3.3. of [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#), (University Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure and Promotion)

6.5.2. A written document stating the department head's, program director's, or supervisor's evaluation and expectations.

The department head, director, or supervisor will write an evaluation for the year in a memorandum or in the annual review document transmitted to the faculty member. The memorandum and/or annual review shall also include a statement on expectations for the next year in research/scholarly activity/creative work, teaching, and service. Moreover, this memorandum and/or annual review should include an informed judgement by the department head, director, or supervisor of the extent to which the faculty member complies with applicable rules, policies, and procedures. The faculty member acknowledges receipt by signing a copy of the document and should be allowed to provide written comments for the file if they so choose. A faculty member refusing to sign the acknowledgment of the document will be noted in the file. This memorandum, and/or the annual review and any related documents, will be placed in the faculty member's unit personnel file and loaded into the Workday system.

No faculty member may receive an overall satisfactory rating if they have not complied with all required System and University training programs ([System Regulation 33.05.02](#) Required Employee Training). In cases where a faculty member has been notified of a mandatory training requirement near the time of the end of the evaluation period, they shall be given 30 days to complete the requirement. To satisfy these requirements the following acknowledgements must be added to the "ACKNOWLEDGEMENT" portion of the department head's, director's, or supervisor's written evaluation and the faculty member must initial:

- I acknowledge that I have completed all mandatory Texas A&M University System training.

6.5.3. Meeting between the department head, director, or supervisor and the faculty member

The department head, director, or supervisor will meet with the faculty member to discuss the written review and expectations for the coming year. In some cases, there may be a need for more frequent meetings at the request of the department head/director/supervisor or faculty member.

6.5.4. Performance Assessment

In assessing performance, the weights given to research/scholarly activity/creative work, teaching, and service shall be consistent with the expectations of the individual's appointment, the annual review, and with the overall contributions of the faculty member to the multiple missions of the Department, College, and University.

6.6. Assessment outcomes that require action

As per [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#) (Post-Tenure Review), the following annual evaluation and periodic peer review ratings require further action:

6.6.1. Unsatisfactory Performance

An overall unsatisfactory rating is defined as being "Unsatisfactory" in any single area of faculty performance: research/scholarly activity/creative work, teaching, service, and other assigned responsibilities (e.g., administration), or a rating of "Needs Improvement" in any two areas of faculty performance.

An annual review resulting in an overall "Unsatisfactory" performance shall state the basis for the rating in accordance with the unit established criteria (see Section 6.4). Each unsatisfactory review shall be reported to the dean. The report to the dean of each "Unsatisfactory" performance evaluation for a tenured faculty member shall be accompanied by a written plan developed by the

faculty member and department head, program director, or supervisor, for near-term improvement. If deemed necessary, due to an unsatisfactory annual evaluation, the department head, director, or supervisor may request a “Periodic Peer Review” (see Section 9.2.) of the faculty member. A tenured faculty member who receives an overall annual rating of “Unsatisfactory” for three consecutive annual reviews or who receives an “Unsatisfactory” periodic peer review (see section 9) shall be subject to a professional development review, as provided for by [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#) (Post-Tenure Review).

6.6.2. Needs Improvement Performance

If a tenured faculty member receives a “Needs Improvement” rating in any single area of faculty performance during the annual evaluation or periodic peer review (see section 9), they must work with their department head, director, or supervisor immediately to develop a plan for near term improvement. For teaching, this plan should take one year or less to complete successfully. In other areas (e.g., research/scholarly activity/creative work), this plan may take up to three years to complete successfully. The rating of “Needs Improvement” can stay as “Needs Improvement” as long as predetermined milestones in the improvement plan are being met, otherwise the rating will be changed to “Unsatisfactory”. The rating of “Needs Improvement” should be changed to “Meets Expectations” when pre-determined milestones are met.

6.7. Timeline

The annual review process is set to conclude prior to the beginning of the budgetary process, thereby enabling department heads, directors, or supervisors to assess faculty performance when determining salary merit increases. The Faculty Affairs’ Guidelines for Annual & Mid-term Reviews states, “These reviews must be completed before merit raises may be recommended, and never later than **June 15** of each year.”

6.8. Complaint procedure if annual review fails to follow published guidelines

A faculty member who believes that his or her annual review process did not comply with the department published annual review guidelines, or in their absence those published by the college, may file a complaint in writing addressed to the dean of the college with a copy to the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. The dean of the college will review and decide on the merits of the complaint. The decision of the dean of the college may be appealed to the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. See section 2.4.3.5 of [University SAP 12.01.99.M1](#).

There is no formal grievance or appeal regarding the substance of an annual review. See section 2.4.3.6 of [University SAP 12.01.99.M1](#)

7. Mid-Term Review

In accordance with Section 4.3.5.2 of [University SAP 12.01.99.M1](#) (University Statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure, and Promotion), it is mandatory that a comprehensive mid-term review for tenure-track faculty subject to a probationary period (of five or more years), be conducted (normally by December of the third year) to determine the progress towards tenure.

The mid-term review processes for Assistant Professors in Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Service follow [AgriLife Research and Extension Guidelines for Promotion Process](#), AgriLife Research Procedures [12.99.99.A0.03 Faculty Promotion](#), and AgriLife Extension Service [Professorial Career Ladder System for Extension Specialist Faculty](#).

7.1. Purpose

- A mid-term review is intended to provide a formative review of tenure-track faculty members near the mid-point of their probationary period.
- This review will familiarize the faculty member with the tenure and promotion process and ensure that the faculty member understands the expectations of those entities that will ultimately be responsible for the tenure and promotion decision.
- This review will ensure the faculty member has a clear understanding of their current status and progress.
- This review should mimic the tenure and promotion review process as closely as possible, including submission of dossier items by the faculty member; however internal letters of recommendation may be solicited by the unit rather than external letters of recommendation. As with the tenure and promotion process, the mid-term review will include review by the unit’s P&T committee, department head/ director/supervisor, the college P&T committee, and dean.
- This review should result in an independent evaluation of the faculty member’s accomplishments and performance in research/scholarly activity/creative work, teaching, and service to date as well as provide constructive guidance for the remainder of the probationary period.
- This review may take the place of the annual faculty performance review. It is recommended that an annual review be done even in the year when the faculty member goes through a mid-term (or tenure) review.
- If a tenure-track faculty member is not progressing adequately toward the requirements for tenure, action to not renew the contract of the individual may be appropriate.

7.2. Process

The mid-term review should be conducted between March of the academic year *prior* to the target academic year, and December of the target year. For example, if the mid-term review is due during the academic year, the mid-term review may occur anytime between March 2023 and December 2023. See below example for faculty member hired in calendar year 2020.

Hired	Probationary Period	Mid-Term Review will occur between
Calendar Year 2020	7 years	Mar – Dec 2023 (due before December 2023 of AY 2023-2024)

7.3. Feedback from mid-term review

Feedback is required for faculty members going through mid-term review. Suggested feedback to the faculty member includes summaries of reports and recommendations for going forward from the dean, department head (supervisor/unit director), and departmental faculty.

7.4. Mid-term review for Academic and Professional Track (APT) Assistant Professors

To provide a formative review of Instructional Assistant Professors and Assistant Professors of Practice near the mid-point of the period toward promotion, a similar mid-term review process may be conducted for APT Assistant Professors in the third calendar year in the rank.

8. Promotion and Tenure Review

8.1. Purpose

Tenure is granted to recognize demonstrated and continued leadership and impact in a research field nationally and a demonstrated commitment to teaching excellence and service. Promotion to Professor is granted for continued international leadership and impact in a research field and demonstrated commitment to teaching excellence and service. In exceptional and rare cases, national/international leadership and impact in teaching and service can be the basis for promotion from associate to Professor (see [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#)).

8.2. Process

8.2.1. *Guidelines for the Promotion/Tenure Review Process*

The promotion/tenure review process (including the timelines and dossier requirements) for all college faculty follows the [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#) and the [Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs guidelines](#).

The departmental P&T committee is expected to provide guidance and feedback to the candidates on preparation of the dossier prior to its submission.

Faculty members having budgeted joint appointments in two or more departments are to be reviewed and evaluated for promotion and/or tenure by each department/unit, in accordance with the guidelines from each department/unit and as specified in the memorandum of understanding executed for the budgeted joint appointment. If the budgeted joint appointment involves other colleges, each dean (and each college level P&T committee) provides recommendations to the provost. The college in which the faculty is administratively located has the responsibility for completing and forwarding the dossier to the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. For candidates who are involved with Interdisciplinary Programs, a letter must be requested from the program chair/director at the same time as when external reviewers' letters are requested so they may become part of the dossier reviewed by the departmental P&T committee.

8.2.2. *Promotion and Tenure Committee*

For purposes of promotion and tenure decisions relating to assistant professors, the Tenure and Promotion Committee consists of all members in the Department holding the rank of associate professor and professor, except the Department Head. These ranks include Academic Professional Track faculty at Associate or Professor levels, Professor of the Practice and Senior and Principal Lecturers. The Chair of the HMGT Tenure and Promotion Committee will be appointed by the Department Head in consultation with HMGT faculty holding the rank of Professor.

Only tenured TAMU faculty are eligible to evaluate and vote in cases where tenure is being considered for the candidate, or when the candidate already holds tenure and is seeking promotion. To be eligible to vote on tenure or promotion, the voting TAMU faculty member must also hold a rank equal to or above that of the rank being sought by the candidate. Both tenure track and APT faculty members who hold a rank equal to or above that of the rank being sought by the candidate are eligible to evaluate and vote on APT promotion cases. Committee members with conflicts of interest (e.g., a relative of the candidate; a graduate or postdoc advisor of the candidate) must recuse themselves from voting on that specific candidate's case.

The Department Head is invited to be present at all meetings of the Promotion and Tenure Committee as an observer and as a resource person to whom the Committee members can direct

informational questions if they so wish, but the Head will not participate either in the discussions or in voting.

8.2.3. Promotion/Tenure Review Process

Review of the cases for College faculty will follow the [University Rule 12.01.99.M1](#) and the [Faculty Affairs Promotion and Tenure Guidelines](#).

All members of the Promotion and Tenure Committee review, discuss, and vote on promotion/tenure cases, unless he/she has a conflict of interest with a specific case. When the chair needs to be recused for a case, he or she will appoint a committee member as the acting chair for the case to facilitate the discussion and development of the report. The committee's confidential vote and discussions of the dossier of each candidate shall be documented in an evaluative report to be submitted by the Chair of the Committee to the Department Head.

9. Post-Tenure Review

In accordance with [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#) (Post-Tenure Review), post-tenure review applies to tenured faculty members and is intended to promote continued academic professional development and enable a faculty member who has fallen below performance norms to pursue a peer-coordinated professional development plan and return to expected levels of productivity. Post-tenure review comprises:

- 1) Annual performance reviews (see Section 6.) conducted by the department head, director, or supervisor (or individual responsible for conducting the annual evaluation).
- 2) Periodic review by a committee of peers (see Section 9.2.).

9.1. Purpose

- Assess whether the individual is making a contribution consistent with that expected of a tenured faculty member.
- Provide guidance for continuing and meaningful faculty development.
- Assist faculty to enhance professional skills and goals/objectives.
- Refocus academic and professional efforts, when appropriate.

9.2. Peer Review Committee

The Promotion and Tenure Committee will serve as the Peer Review Committee. The Peer Review Committee cannot be comprised of any faculty being peer reviewed that year.

9.3. Process

The faculty member under review will submit to the Peer Review Committee (exclusive of the individual being reviewed) the same documentation submitted to the department head for the annual review for that year.

The Peer Review Committee will review the submitted materials and prepare a written evaluation of the faculty member's performance, providing an evaluation rating in the categories of assigned responsibilities, as well as an overall evaluation. The criteria for the individual and overall performance ratings follow the criteria established in the unit guidelines and should be consistent with annual evaluations. The Committee will consider the faculty member's position description when evaluating the faculty member's performance.

If all of the relevant review categories are satisfactory, the faculty member will be subjected to periodic peer review again in six years or fewer, as determined by department guidelines, or following three consecutive unsatisfactory annual evaluations by the department head, director, or supervisor, whichever is earlier.

A finding of “Unsatisfactory” performance in any particular category shall state the basis for that finding in accordance with the criteria described in the unit guidelines. An unsatisfactory Periodic Peer Review will trigger the initiation of a Professional Development Review.

A finding of “Needs Improvement” in any two categories shall state the basis for that finding in accordance with the criteria described in the unit guidelines. Such an outcome will also trigger the initiation of a Professional Development Review.

A rating of “Needs Improvement” in a single category must specifically elaborate the deficiencies, in writing, to better inform the immediate development of a near term improvement plan developed in collaboration between the department head, director, or supervisor and the faculty member.

For tenured faculty with budgeted joint appointments, Periodic Peer Review will be conducted as per the post-tenure review guidelines of the unit where the faculty holds the majority of the appointment (ad loc) unless the faculty member requests to be reviewed by both units.¹ If reviewed only by the primary unit, the department head, director, or supervisor will share the report with the other department head, director, or supervisor of the secondary unit.

By no later than May 31st, each unit will provide to the dean and Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, the list of those faculty who underwent Periodic Peer Review, the outcome of the review, and the year when each tenured faculty last underwent a review. The Peer Review Committee’s written evaluation and the faculty member’s post-tenure review documents will be placed in the faculty member’s departmental personnel file.

9.4. Professional Development Review

A professional development review will be initiated when a tenured faculty member receives three consecutive overall “Unsatisfactory” annual reviews (see Section 7.) or an “Unsatisfactory” Peer Review (see Section 9.2.4.4.) or upon request of the faculty member (see Section 9.6). The department head will inform the faculty member that he or she is subject to a Professional Development Review, and of the nature and procedures of the review. A faculty member can be exempted from review upon recommendation of the department head, director, or supervisor and approval of the dean when substantive mitigating circumstances (e.g. serious illness) exist. For more information on the process of the Professional Development Review see [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#) (Post-Tenure Review). If substantial or chronic deficiencies are identified, the review committee specifically elaborates the deficiencies in writing and a copy is provided to the faculty member, department head, and dean. The faculty member, review committee, and department head/ director/supervisor shall then work together to draw up a “Professional Development Plan” (see Section 8.5.) acceptable to the dean.

- The purposes of Professional Development Review are to: identify and officially acknowledge substantial or chronic deficits in performance; develop a specific professional development plan by which to remedy deficiencies; and monitor progress toward achievement of the professional development plan.
- The Professional Development Review will be conducted by an ad hoc review committee (hereafter referred to as the review committee), unless the faculty member requests that it be

¹ It is recommended that faculty who hold budgeted joint appointments complete the post-tenure review in both units.

conducted by the department head. The three-member ad hoc faculty review committee will be appointed by the dean, in consultation with the department head and faculty member to be reviewed. When appropriate, the committee membership may include faculty from other departments, colleges, or universities.

- On behalf of the Dean, the Executive Associate Dean will solicit a list of names of potential committee members from the faculty member and a list of individuals that should not be contacted. The department head will give feedback on the submitted names and have the opportunity to provide additional names. The Dean will appoint the three-member ad hoc faculty review committee based on the input from the faculty member and the department head.
- The faculty member to be reviewed will prepare a review dossier by providing all documents, materials, and statements he or she deems relevant and necessary for the review within one month of notification of Professional Review. All materials submitted by the faculty member are to be included in the dossier. Although review dossiers will differ, the dossier will include at minimum current curriculum vitae, a teaching portfolio, and a statement on current research, scholarship, or creative work.
- The department head will add to the dossier any further materials he or she deems necessary or relevant to the review of the faculty member's academic performance. The faculty member has the right to review and respond in writing to any materials added by the department head with the written response included in the dossier. In addition, the faculty member has the right to add any materials at any time during the review process.
- The Professional Development Review will be made in a timely fashion (normally within three months after submission of the dossier). The Professional Development Review will result in one of three possible outcomes:
 - No deficiencies are identified. The faculty member, department head, and dean are so informed in writing, and the outcome of the prior annual review is superseded by the ad hoc committee report,
 - Some deficiencies are identified but are determined not to be substantial or chronic. The review committee specifically elaborates the deficiencies in writing and a copy is provided to the faculty member, the department head, and the dean to better inform the near-term improvement plan of Section 2.4,
 - Substantial or chronic deficiencies are identified. The review committee specifically elaborates the deficiencies in writing and a copy is provided to the faculty member, department head, and dean. The faculty member, review committee, and department head shall then work together to draw up a "Professional Development Plan" (see section 9.5) acceptable to the dean.

9.5. The Professional Development Plan

The Professional Development Plan shall indicate how specific deficiencies in a faculty member's performance (as measured against stated criteria in the unit guidelines under the provision of this procedure) will be remedied. The plan will be developed with the collaboration among the faculty member, the review committee, the department head, director, or supervisor and the dean, and should reflect the mutual aspirations of the faculty member, the unit, and the college. The plan will be formulated with the assistance of and in consultation with the faculty member. It is the faculty member's obligation to assist in the development of a meaningful and effective plan and to make a good faith effort to implement the plan adopted. For more details on the Professional Development Plan see Section 9 of [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#) (Post-Tenure Review)

9.6. Appeal

If at any point during the procedure the faculty member believes the provisions of the Post-tenure review are being unfairly applied, a grievance can be filed under the provisions of [University SAP 12.99.99.M0.01](#) (Faculty Grievances Procedures not Concerning Questions of Tenure, Dismissal, or Constitutional Rights).

If the faculty member wishes to contest the composition of the Professional Development Review committee due to specific conflict of interest with one or more of the proposed committee members, an appeal may be made to Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Associate Provost. After consultation with the faculty member, department head/director/supervisor, and the dean, the decision of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Associate Provost on the committee composition is final (section 6, [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#)).

If the faculty member wishes to contest the Professional Development Review committee's finding of substantial or chronic deficiencies, the faculty member may appeal the finding to the dean, whose decision on such an appeal is final (section 6, [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#)).

If the faculty member, department head/director/supervisor, and review committee fail to agree on a Professional Development Plan acceptable to the dean, the plan will be determined through mediation directed by the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Associate Provost (section 6, [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#)).

9.7. Voluntary Post-Tenure Review

A tenured faculty member desirous of a voluntary Post-Tenure Review may seek the counsel of peers, through a Periodic Peer Review or a Professional Development Review, by making a request to the department head, director, or supervisor (section 6, [University SAP 12.06.99.M0.01](#)).

10. Granting Faculty Emeritus Status

[University Rule 31.08.01.M2](#) states the following: Every individual who, at the time of separation holds a tenured appointment at Texas A&M University and has served the University at least 10 years, must be considered for emeritus status unless the faculty member requests in writing that he/she not be so considered. Non-tenured faculty, or those who have served less than 10 years, may also be considered.

For faculty without tenure or who have served the University for fewer than 10 years, see [System Regulation 31.08.01](#), which indicates the process for this situation.

See the website of the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs for [procedures and forms](#) for nominating a faculty member for emeritus status.

Contact Office

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