



**ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY**

February 5, 2020

**TO:** Lynn Mahoney, President  
San Francisco State University

**FROM:** Nancy C. Gerber, Chair *NCG*  
Academic Senate

**RE:** Senate Policy F19-241 Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Policy

**SOURCE COMMITTEE:**  
Faculty Affairs Committee

**SENATE ACTION:**

At its meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 the Academic Senate approved **Senate Policy Revision to S19-241 Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Policy.**

We solicit your concurrence. Thank You.

**cc:** Jennifer Summit, University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Beth Hellwig, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs & Title IX Coordinator  
Alison Kleaver, University Council  
Jeff Wilson, Interim Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, Administration and Finance  
Carleen Mandolfo, Associate Vice President Faculty Affairs

**ec:** The Deans and Associate Deans of the Colleges  
Dept. Chairs/Program Directors  
Todd Roehrman, Associate Dean Faculty Affairs

**PRESIDENTIAL ACTION**

**APPROVED:** *Lynn Mahoney* **Date:** *2-10-2020*



# SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

Policy #: F19-241  
 Supersedes: S19-241  
 Senate Approval: 11/12/2019  
 Presidential Approval: 2/10/2020  
 Effective: Fall 2020  
 Last Review: Fall 2019  
 Next Review: Fall 2024

## RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION POLICY

### Rationale

The retention, tenure and promotion policy describes the process, procedures and rules for evaluation of faculty members who are under review in the RTP process.

**Source Committee:** Faculty Affairs Committee

**Unit(s) Responsible for Implementation:** All Colleges and the Library, Office of the Provost, Division of Faculty Affairs

**Consultations:**

### History

Version	Approved	Revisions(s)
8	2/10/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.2.1 Change may to should last sentence of first paragraph</li> <li>Section 1.8.3: Adds language about evaluation of service work.</li> </ul>
7	4/18/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed and thorough review of policy in its entirety including, but not limited to, the following.</li> <li>Moved the section on conflict of interest on UTPC to just under the header of section 1.1, so as to apply to all levels of review.</li> <li>Section 1.1.3: Clarifies that committee members have access to consider all material in a candidate's PAF.</li> </ul>
6	12/06/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.1: Committee Membership, including statements on conflict of interest and roles in RTP committees</li> </ul>
5	05/17/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.2: Greatly expands procedures for developing and revising Departmental RTP criteria.</li> <li>Section 1.6: Department criteria must provide guidelines on criteria for early tenure.</li> <li>Section 1.8: Clarified that departmental RTP criteria must define how teaching effectiveness and contributions to campus and community are evaluated.</li> </ul>
4	5/12/2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enables development of an electronic process for submission and evaluation of WPAFs.</li> </ul>
3	11/1/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
2	2/3/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes made to comply with 2007 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)</li> </ul>
1	11/28/2006	Original. Combined Retention and Tenure Policy (S94-120) and Promotion policy (F04-028) into one document.

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**1.0 RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION POLICY**

This Retention, Tenure and Promotion Policy (henceforth “University RTP policy”) is a revision of the Retention, Tenure and Promotion Policy approved by the Academic Senate on May 12, 2015, and approved by the President on June 24, 2015. (S15-241).

This University RTP policy complies with Articles 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 22 from the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the California Faculty Association and the Board of Trustees of the California State University, Unit 3: Faculty (henceforth “CBA”), ratified on November 12, 2014.

“Tenure” means the right of a faculty member to continue at San Francisco State University subject to the conditions in the CBA.

Advancement in rank is based on merit as demonstrated by teaching effectiveness, professional achievement and growth, and contributions to campus and community (service).

This University RTP policy shall be reviewed, and revised if necessary, at least once every 6 years.

[A review of the entire policy was completed by the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) in February 2019.]

## **1.1 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The promotion and tenure committees should be independent across levels; that is, no individual should actively participate simultaneously on promotion and tenure committees at two different levels (department, college, and campus). Active participation might include advocating for or against a candidate, voting for or against a recommendation on tenure or promotion, or serving on tenure and promotion committees at different levels of review.

Chairs of all committees, regardless of level of review, shall ask members to report any potential conflicts of roles or conflicts of interest when participating in the review of applications for retention, tenure and/or promotion. As per Senate Policy S17-144, conflict of roles will be defined as circumstances in which there is a risk that a current or past relationship compromises, or could have the appearance of compromising, a faculty member's judgment with regard to the candidate. As per Senate Policy S17-144, conflict of interest, will be defined as circumstances in which there is a financial connection between a member and a faculty member under review. If a disagreement arises as to whether a conflict of role or a conflict of interest exists, the arbitrator will be the Dean of Equity Initiatives and University Ombudsperson. In cases of conflicts of roles or interests, a UTPC member in conflict shall recuse themselves from the committee for that year of review and an alternate shall be selected as per Academic Senate policy. In cases of conflicts of roles or interests, a department member in conflict shall recuse themselves from the individual candidate's file review.

### **1.1.1 Department peer review committee structure**

Department peer review committees, also identified in this policy as "RTP committees," shall be elected by secret ballot by probationary and tenured faculty in the department from among the tenured full-time faculty. Faculty being considered for promotion and/or tenure are ineligible to serve on department peer review committees. Faculty on leave are eligible to serve only if they are willing to serve throughout an academic year. At the request of the department, the President or designee may agree that faculty participating in the Faculty Early Retirement Program may be eligible to serve on a department peer review committee. Department peer review committee members must have a higher rank than those faculty being considered for promotion.

Departments shall have RTP committees that consist of at least three members. Department peer review committee members shall serve a three-year term of office and may be elected for subsequent terms. Provision shall be made to ensure continuity of membership so that in any year there will be carryover of at least one person on a three-member committee and at least two persons on a five-or-more-member committee. In the event a committee member cannot fulfill the term of office, a substitute shall be selected through the standard election procedures to fill out the remainder of the unfulfilled term.

Departments may elect one department peer review committee for retention, tenure, and promotion decisions or elect separate department peer review committees for retention, tenure and/or promotion.

When there are too few eligible faculty to serve on the department peer review committee within the department, the department shall elect members from among the tenured full time faculty in related academic disciplines.

Faculty holding joint appointments shall be reviewed by tenured faculty from each department in which the individual holds an appointment. The review may be conducted by each department separately or by one committee with representation from each department.

The department chair is ineligible to serve as a member of the committee, or to participate in department peer review committee deliberations. They shall make a separate and independent recommendation on each retention, tenure, or promotion case under consideration. However, when a department chair is under review for retention, promotion and/or tenure, or when they are not currently at a higher rank than the faculty under review, they may not make separate and independent chair level recommendations for faculty under review in their department.

### **1.1.2 The University Tenure and Promotions Committee (UTPC)**

The University Tenure and Promotions Committee (henceforth "UTPC") shall consist of five members, elected according to the following procedures. UTPC members must be tenured Professors. However, the President or designee may agree that faculty participating in the Faculty Early Retirement Program be eligible to serve. The chair shall receive one course release for two semesters, and the remaining members shall receive one course release for one semester. During the spring semester, one tenured Professor from each unit (College or Library) that does not have a member continuing on UTPC shall be nominated according to the procedures for electing College representatives to the Academic Senate. An all-university election shall be held by the end of April to elect the members of UTPC from the pool of nominees. Each faculty person may vote for as many persons as there are vacant seats in this election. Those receiving the highest vote tally shall be elected to the committee. In case of a tie vote for the last seat, a run-off election between the tied candidates shall be conducted.

College deans, University and College administrators, department chairs, and school directors who have responsibility for RTP review, and members of department peer review committees, members of the Academic Senate and Academic Freedom Committee are not eligible to serve on UTPC.

In the event a College or the Library does not have at least two eligible tenured Professors or Librarians, the unit shall have the option of recommending its nominee to the University election from the pool of eligible tenured Professors University-wide. The College or Library shall decide upon its nominee through a unit election process.

If a vacancy occurs on UTPC after the University election, the person with the next highest number of votes in the University election shall be appointed. If there is not an available candidate with the next highest number of votes, then the Academic Senate will hold a special election to fill the vacancy.

Each member of UTPC serves a term of two years. Members may succeed themselves in office but cannot serve for more than four consecutive years.

The members of UTPC shall elect one of their members to serve as chair. The chair's term is one year.

UTPC may participate in meetings having to do with general promotions policies and processes where such meetings or communication sessions do not involve discussion of individual cases.

### **1.1.3 University Tenure and Promotion Committee (UTPC) Charge**

The UTPC has the following responsibilities:

1. The UTPC will consider recommendations from the department RTP committee, from the department Chair, and from the Dean concurrent with the Provost's review of those recommendations.

2. All cases will be carefully and completely reviewed. The Committee will pay special attention to cases where there is disagreement between the Dean, the Chair and/or the department RTP committee. Such cases will be carefully and completely reviewed.
3. The recommendations from prior levels will be examined to be certain that procedures and criteria have been correctly followed.
4. The Committee will have the authority to consider all materials in the Personnel Action file and Working Personnel Action File (henceforth "PAF" and "WPAF") and compare it with departmental RTP criteria.
5. The Committee will be aware that departmental criteria for tenure and for promotion may differ and will pay attention to both.
6. All UTPC considerations must correspond with department RTP criteria (Department RTP policy).
7. The UTPC and the Provost will confer before making their recommendations to the President.

## **1.2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES FOR RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION (RTP)**

These principles and procedures apply to all eligible faculty unit employees, who are referred to as "faculty members" in this document. In this document, the term "dean" includes all College deans and the University Librarian.

### **1.2.1 Department Criteria for Retention, Tenure and Promotion**

It is the responsibility of the department to establish clearly the department's expectations for retention, tenure, and promotion (department RTP criteria) consistent with this University RTP policy. Department RTP criteria will be approved by the tenured and probationary faculty in the department and will be developed in consultation with the Dean of the college and the Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development, and must be approved by the Dean of their college and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, via the Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development. Departments should develop criteria for demonstrating professional ethics and principles, and accepting responsibility for working effectively with colleagues to achieve department, college and university goals.

The department is also responsible for making clear in its departmental criteria, the requirements for documenting the quality and relevance of the work accomplished, including an articulation of forms of peer review relevant to its discipline.

If external reviews for tenure and promotion are included within departmental criteria, those criteria should establish guidelines and a process for soliciting such reviews for tenure, promotion to Associate Professor and Professor. Faculty candidates may request external reviews to be solicited by their departmental RTP committee and included prior to the closing of their WPAF file.

It is further the responsibility of the department to review, and revise if necessary, its expectations and criteria for retention, tenure and promotion at least once every 6 years. Revisions of departmental RTP criteria must be approved by a simple majority of the tenured and probationary faculty in the department, the Dean of the college and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, via the Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development. When revisions are made to the departmental criteria, departments shall include provisions,

within the revised departmental criteria, that allow probationary faculty to choose once between existing criteria and new criteria.

### **1.2.2 Processes around evaluation of eligible faculty**

All eligible faculty shall be evaluated solely according to the criteria and procedures contained in this University RTP policy, the departmental RTP criteria, and the CBA. This University RTP policy as well as the departmental RTP criteria shall be provided by the department chair to eligible faculty no later than 14 days after the first day of instruction of the academic term. In the spring semester prior to commencement of the annual evaluation, the department RTP committee shall meet with eligible faculty to provide assistance with the departmental RTP criteria under which they will be evaluated. Department RTP policies and the membership of the current year's retention, tenure, and promotions committees shall be forwarded to the Academic Senate, the University Tenure and Promotions Committee, the Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development and the College dean according to the deadline on the Executive Calendar.

All committee deliberations are always confidential, unless superseded by the current CSU executive orders.

Recommendations regarding retention, tenure, and promotion are confidential except that the affected faculty member, department RTP committee, department chair, dean/university librarian, UTPC, and the Provost shall have access to the reviews and recommendations for all levels of review.

### **1.2.3 Personnel Action File and Working Personnel Action File**

The faculty member being reviewed is responsible for the preparation and submission of an up-to-date curriculum vitae and all materials they wish to have considered prior to the date the file is closed.

It is the obligation of every person involved in the evaluation process to make a diligent effort to obtain factual evidence, to verify the accuracy of data offered, and to evaluate the performance of the faculty member under consideration. Department peer review committees, department chairs, and administrators are responsible for identifying materials related to the evaluation not provided by the faculty member and for placing these materials in the WPAF prior to the date the file is closed. Reviews and recommendations for the purpose of decisions relating to retention, tenure, and promotion shall be based solely on material contained in the WPAF and the Personnel Action File (henceforth "PAF"). Faculty members shall have access to all materials to be placed in the WPAF at least five days prior to such placement.

The WPAF shall be defined as that portion of the PAF specifically generated for use in an evaluation cycle. Guidelines for preparing WPAFs are provided by the Office of Faculty Affairs in the handbook titled Preparing for Tenure and Promotion. Revisions to the handbook will be made in consultation with the Academic Senate and be in compliance with the CBA and this University RTP policy. The WPAF contains the faculty member's materials and index, student evaluations of teaching effectiveness, and all other information provided by faculty, students, academic administrators, and others who must be identified by name. When submitted, the WPAF should contain the following:

- Cover sheet
- Curriculum vitae (candidates are encouraged to use the curriculum vitae format provided by the Office of Faculty Affairs in its handbook Preparing for Tenure and Promotion)
- Department/Program RTP criteria

- Reports and rebuttals, if any, from all prior substantive reviews at San Francisco State of candidates applying for tenure and promotion (for promotion, only reports and rebuttals from previous promotion reviews)
- Candidate rebuttal to dean's recommendation (if any)
- Dean's recommendation
- Candidate rebuttal to chair's recommendation (if any)
- Department chair's recommendation
- Candidate rebuttal to department peer review committee recommendation (if any)
- Department peer review committee recommendation and report
- Candidates are encouraged to provide a self-statement of teaching effectiveness, professional achievement and growth, and contributions to campus and community that provides an introduction to the candidate's accomplishments. The goal of the self-statement is to provide an introduction of the candidate's materials within each area for subsequent levels of review. It should provide a context for understanding the candidate's accomplishments within each area. It is recommended that the statement for each area (effectiveness in teaching or area of primary assignment, professional achievement and growth, and contributions to campus and community) not exceed 750 words.
- A set of materials representing evidence of the candidate's accomplishments in teaching effectiveness or area of primary assignment, professional achievement and growth, and contributions to campus and community.

All information provided by faculty, students, academic administrators and others must be identified by the name of the source. Routine student evaluations, however, remain anonymous and are identified only by their course, section, and semester. Any student communications other than these routine evaluations must be identified by name.

The chair of the department peer review committee is responsible for the generation and maintenance of the WPAF until the file is forwarded to the department chair. The chair of the department peer review committee shall complete the appropriate sections of the RTP Cover Sheet and insert it in the WPAF prior to forwarding the file to the next level of review. At each level of review, the RTP Cover Sheet shall be completed for that level of review.

The WPAF shall be considered complete with respect to documentation of performance for the current cycle of review on the date published in the Executive Calendar. After this date, the insertion of new material into the WPAF shall be limited to those items that became accessible only after this deadline and have been approved for inclusion by the department RTP committee. The candidate may appeal determinations to the College Leave with Pay Committee. Any material inserted after the deadline shall be returned to all earlier levels of review for evaluation and comment beginning with the department peer review committee.

The candidate is responsible for the identifying of materials they wish to be considered and for the submission of such materials as may be accessible to them. Department peer review committees and administrators are responsible for identifying and providing materials relating to evaluation that are not provided by the candidate. If the department chair, the dean, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or UTPC discover that required evaluation documents are missing, the WPAF must be returned to the level at which the requisite documentation should have been provided. Such material shall be provided in a timely manner.



After the closing of the WPAF, a request for an external review of materials submitted by a faculty member may be initiated at any level of review by any party to the review. External review is defined as off-campus impartial evaluation of materials in the WPAF. Such a request shall document the special circumstances that necessitate an outside reviewer and the nature of the materials needing the evaluation of an external reviewer. The request must be approved by the President or designee with the concurrence of the candidate.

In the event the President makes a decision regarding retention, tenure, or promotion for reasons other than the professional qualifications, work performance, or personal attributes of the faculty member as documented in the WPAF, then these written reasons must be given to the faculty member immediately and inserted in the PAF.

### **1.3 OPERATIONAL CALENDAR FOR RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dates for the closing of the WPAF and the submission of reviews and recommendations to the next level of review shall be determined annually and published in the Executive Calendar. There shall be a minimum of two weeks for review at successive levels. All cases involving tenure and promotion must allow a minimum of one month total for consideration by both the Provost and the President. All evaluations shall be conducted and completed within the period of time specified by the Executive Calendar. The WPAF shall be forwarded in a timely manner to the next level of review. If any level of a retention, tenure, or promotion review has not been completed within the specified period of time the review shall be automatically transferred to the next level of review or appropriate administrator and the faculty member shall be so notified.

#### **Notification of Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Decisions**

Faculty in their first and second year of probation shall be notified of the final decision on retention by February 15. The decision shall be for retention or termination.

Faculty in their third, fourth, fifth, and sixth years of probation shall be notified of retention, appointment with tenure, or terminal year appointment by June 1. If tenure is awarded, the letter shall indicate the effective date, which is the beginning of the academic year following the year in which tenure is awarded.

Terminal year appointments are limited to probationary faculty who have served a minimum of three (3) years of probation.

Faculty being considered for promotion shall be notified no later than June 15. If promotion is awarded, the letter shall indicate the effective date, which is the beginning of the academic year following the year in which promotion is granted.

### **1.4 DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE LEVEL REVIEW PROCEDURES**

The main responsibility for evaluating and interpreting the significance of a candidate's endeavors and performance must reside with the department peer review committee, department chair, and College dean. These three parties to the retention, tenure, and promotions processes must meet this responsibility in order for the processes to function at an acceptable professional level.

At the beginning of the fall semester, the college office shall access the online report for faculty eligible for retention, tenure and promotion. For promotion decisions, the College deans shall notify in writing eligible faculty, department peer review committees, and department chairs. Faculty members who are eligible for review for promotion but decline to be considered must notify the department chair, department peer review committee, College dean, UTPC and Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development in writing that they do not wish to be

considered. Candidates for promotion may withdraw without prejudice from consideration at any level of review.

The department peer review committee shall notify all eligible faculty of the evaluation criteria and procedures (including due dates) prior to the beginning of each annual evaluation process. These criteria and procedures must be adhered to throughout the process.

The department peer review committee shall assemble all information relevant to the evaluation by the closing date published in the Executive Calendar, as described in Section 1.2, General Principles and Procedures for Retention, Tenure, and Promotion. All information considered by the department peer review committee, except routine student evaluations, must be identified by the name of the source.

For all faculty members with teaching assignments, Student Evaluations of Teaching Effectiveness (SETEs) for all classes taught shall be placed in the WPAF.

Evaluation reports and recommendations shall be approved by a simple majority of the membership of the department peer review committee. Abstentions shall be counted as a no vote.

Upon completion of its deliberations, the department peer review committee shall prepare a written report summarizing the data sources used, the nature of its evidence, its evaluation of the evidence, and its concluding recommendations. The department peer review committee shall sign and give its report and recommendations to the faculty member prior to forwarding it to the next level of review. Whenever a candidate is not recommended for retention, tenure, or promotion by the department peer review committee, the committee must provide the candidate, in writing, with its reasons for recommending against retention, tenure or promotion. If the decision is against promotion, then the committee must specify ways in which the candidate must improve in order to merit promotion. The faculty member shall sign and date receipt of their copy.

The department chair shall prepare a separate recommendation. It shall be their duty to give a copy of this recommendation to the faculty member before forwarding it and the WPAF to the dean.

Differences of opinion and problems of communication should be resolved to the extent possible at the level of origin before being forwarded to the next level of review. In the event of disagreement between the department peer review committee and the department chair's recommendation or between the dean and the department peer review committee or the chair, the dean shall attempt to secure resolution through consultation with department peer review committee and the department chair.

The dean shall prepare a separate recommendation, and shall give a copy of the recommendation to the faculty member prior to forwarding the WPAF and recommendation to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and UTPC.

At each level of review, the faculty member shall be given a copy of the recommendation prior to forwarding to the next level of review. At all levels of review, the faculty member shall have the right to respond or submit a rebuttal statement in writing no later than ten (10) calendar days following receipt of the recommendation. A copy of the response or rebuttal statement shall become part of the WPAF prior to being forwarded to the next level, and shall be sent to any previous levels of review. Upon request, the faculty member may be provided an opportunity to discuss the recommendation with the recommending party. The right to rebut or to request a meeting shall not require alteration of the timelines.

## **1.5 THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL REVIEW PROCEDURES:**

## **FOR RETENTION DECISIONS:**

The decision for retention of candidates rests with the President, or designee. As the President's designee, the Provost may authorize reappointments in consultation with the college dean and others as required in each instance.

## **FOR TENURE AND PROMOTION DECISIONS:**

Each level of review will have access to the WPAF according to the RTP calendar.

Tenure and promotion decisions are made by the University President. At the University level, the WPAF is reviewed by UTPC and by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. UTPC and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs shall each review the recommendations from previous levels and the WPAF and prepare the recommendations for the President. Copies of their separate recommendations and reasons therefore shall be sent to the candidate ten days prior to forwarding the WPAF to the President, according to deadlines published in the Executive Calendar. Recommendations shall be made as early in the year as possible and shall be forwarded to the President no later than May 15.

UTPC and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs shall meet to discuss their recommendations prior to forwarding their final recommendations to the candidate and the President. The President shall meet together with UTPC and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs to discuss their recommendations prior to making their final decision.

All proceedings of UTPC are conducted in strict confidence. No member of UTPC is authorized to divulge any information with regard to Committee deliberations or meetings with the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or the President to any person outside the Committee. Although abstentions are not votes, and they have no effect on the determination of a majority of the votes cast, promotion evaluation reports and recommendations shall be approved by a simple majority (3 out of 5) of the committee membership.

The President shall state their reasons for approval or denial in their letter of decision.

At the end of the tenure and promotions process, after tenure and promotions decisions have been announced, a copy of the WPAF and copies of the President's letter informing faculty of his/her their decision shall be sent to the official PAF in the Faculty Records Office.

Following the final promotions announcement by the President, the University Tenure and Promotions Committee shall report to the Senate the number of its positive and negative recommendations. This report may also call attention to ways in which the promotions operations may be improved. The report must be signed by all Committee members.

## **1.6 RETENTION AND TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS**

There will be an annual review of each probationary faculty member by the department peer review committee, the department chair, and the dean for the purpose of recommending retention, termination, terminal year appointment, or tenure to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The purpose of retention and tenure review is to assess the probationer's performance against this University RTP policy and departmental RTP criteria in order to make personnel recommendations and to provide helpful information to the candidate about performance expectations. The quality of the review is dependent upon the department peer review committee and chair taking full responsibility for conducting the review at the departmental level and upon the candidate's understanding that they are an integral part of the evaluation process and must provide requested information on time and in the format specified.

### **1.6.1 Probationary Reviews**

- a) The first year review will, of necessity, occur during the first semester of probation. This review shall be limited to a recommendation for retention or termination. The purpose of this review is to discuss with the faculty member the department's criteria for retention, tenure, and promotion, the content and organization of the WPAF, and this University RTP policy.
- b) The second year review will be based upon performance during the first year of probation. It shall contain an evaluation of teaching effectiveness and any other descriptive material or commentary relevant to the other retention criteria. The recommendation shall be for retention or termination.
- c) The third year review shall be an update of the second year review. An update should include a revised curriculum vitae (C.V.). The recommendation shall be for retention or reappointment for a terminal year.
- d) The fourth year review shall be a comprehensive evaluation of the first three years of probation addressing all criteria for retention. The recommendation shall be for retention or reappointment for a terminal year.
- e) The fifth year review shall be an update of the fourth year review. An update should include a revised curriculum vitae (C.V.). This review will identify any recurring problems that must be resolved prior to a tenure decision. The recommendation shall be for retention or a terminal year appointment.
- f) The sixth year review shall be a comprehensive summative evaluation of the preceding five years of probation according to all criteria for tenure. The recommendation shall be for tenure or a terminal year appointment.
- g) Department RTP committees reserve the right to perform a comprehensive evaluation in years when a comprehensive review is not required by this policy. The RTP committee shall notify the candidate by the end of the preceding academic year if this decision is made. The probationary faculty member may request a comprehensive evaluation in any year.

### **1.6.2 Early Tenure**

The President in special circumstances may award tenure earlier than the normal six-year probationary period. A recommendation for the award of early tenure shall be accompanied by a comprehensive evaluation of the entire probationary period according to all the criteria for tenure.

A probationary faculty member may request review for tenure in any probationary year.

Departments will include, in their departmental RTP criteria, clear guidelines as to what might constitutes the special circumstances for a candidate to be recommended for early tenure.

A faculty member on a professional leave with pay shall, when otherwise eligible, accrue a maximum of one (1) year service credit as part of the probationary period. The granting of full or partial leaves without pay to probationary faculty is at the discretion of the department and dean.

If the maximum allowable time credited towards the probationary period has not been reached, probationary faculty on partial professional leave without pay shall be evaluated for retention and tenure according to the same procedures, criteria and time frames in effect for all probationary faculty. The time spent on a professional leave of absence without pay counts as part of the probationary period.

### **1.6.3 Tenure at Time of Appointment**

The President in special circumstances may award tenure at the time of appointment. Appointments with tenure shall be made only after an evaluation and recommendation by the

appropriate department and shall be based upon an assessment of performance prior to the time of appointment. The criteria to be used are the same as those for regular tenure and promotion and they are described below.

### **1.7 PROMOTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

A faculty member shall not normally be promoted during probation. A probationary faculty member shall normally be considered for promotion at the same time they are considered for tenure.

Promotion of a tenured faculty member shall normally be effective at the beginning of the sixth (6th) year after appointment to their current academic rank/classification. The performance review for promotion shall take place during the year preceding the effective date of promotion. This provision shall not apply if the faculty member has requested in writing that they not be considered for promotion.

In some circumstances, a faculty member may, upon application and with a positive recommendation from their department or equivalent unit, be considered for promotion to Professor or Librarian equivalent prior to having satisfied the service requirements as described above.

Promotions may be granted to faculty who have been engaged in administrative activities outside the department. Such promotions must be made according to the procedures in this policy.

Activities while in current rank are of primary relevance to promotion considerations. Verifiable accomplishments while in the same rank at other institutions or equivalent accomplishments in a non-academic setting may be included in the WPAF. When former lecturers have performed academic work comparable to that of faculty at the rank to which they have been appointed, that work may be used toward promotion. Activities engaged in while in their former rank are relevant when they form part of a process that occurs, in part, while the candidate is in current rank.

### **1.8 RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION CRITERIA**

The following criteria are to be employed at all levels of decision-making in respect to retention, tenure, and promotion.

The criteria for retention, tenure, and promotion are divided into three areas (a) teaching effectiveness and/or primary assignment, (b) professional achievement and growth, and (c) contributions to campus and community. Candidates for retention, tenure, and promotion shall be evaluated on all criteria. For teaching faculty, excellence in teaching is required. For faculty whose primary assignment is other than teaching, excellence in the primary assignment is required. To merit tenure and/or promotion all candidates must meet the standard of excellence normally expected of faculty and required by their department's RTP criteria.

Effective teaching is exhibited in the classroom, research laboratory, or in the community. It is demonstrated when faculty join with students to develop knowledge and skills through classroom experiences, scholarly research, creative activities, and community service. Departments should decide the priority of non-teaching criteria.

Achievements in current rank should demonstrate promise of meritorious activities comparable to the achievements and services expected of faculty who serve at the rank to which the individual is to be promoted. The intensity of the evaluation process will vary in accordance with the academic position of the faculty member; thus, promotion to Professor requires more rigorous standards than promotion to Associate Professor, as determined by the department

RTP criteria. Department RTP criteria shall clearly define the expectations for promotion to Professor as distinct from the expectations for promotion to Associate Professor.

### **1.8.1 Teaching Effectiveness**

An assessment of teaching effectiveness is required for every year of probation. A faculty member should maintain a scholarly level of instruction, show commitment to high academic and pedagogical standards, be effective in instructing and advising students, guide and motivate students, and apply evaluative standards fairly and appropriately with respect to all students.

Assessment of teaching effectiveness must be based on evidence obtained systematically from students and colleagues as well as from the candidate. This evidence may be provided in a variety of ways:

- A scholarly level of instruction may be demonstrated by evidence such as continuing study, attendance at professional conferences and workshops, currency of course materials, and course and curriculum development, whether disciplinary or interdisciplinary.
- Commitment to high academic standards may be demonstrated by evidence such as written course requirements, evaluation procedures, and student performance.
- Commitment to high pedagogical standards may be demonstrated by evidence such as continued critical examination of one's teaching behavior, participation in instructional development seminars and workshops, innovations in teaching techniques, and currency in instructional theory and research.
- Effectiveness in instructing students may be demonstrated by evidence such as student evaluations, comments, and letters; and peer review and observations of teaching.
- Effectiveness in advising may be demonstrated by evidence such as descriptions of the nature and extent of advising activities, student letters and interviews, and descriptions of thesis and special project advising.
- Effectiveness in guiding and motivating students may be demonstrated by evidence such as student evaluations, comments, and letters; examples of feedback given to students; and examples of willingness to confer with students.
- Fair and appropriate application of evaluative standards may be demonstrated by evidence such as student evaluations, comments, and letters.

The department, in making its evaluation of teaching effectiveness, must indicate the qualitative bases on which that judgment was made. A list of all courses taught, and those courses evaluated, should be included. If the data used to evaluate teaching effectiveness include student comments, a sample of this material shall be included. Data that have been summarized statistically (e.g., overall mean ratings) should be accompanied by the more detailed data (e.g., time means, course means, etc.) on which they were based. Comparative data may also be used, but should indicate the basis for comparison (e.g., department as a whole, faculty at the same rank, faculty teaching same or similar courses, candidate's ratings over time, etc.) This evaluation should also reflect the department's need for instruction at different levels, individualized and specialized instruction, and student advising.

Departmental criteria shall define how teaching effectiveness is evaluated. The documentation shall include classroom materials, syllabi, and student evaluations, and may include a range of peer evaluations, such as yearly classroom visits for probationary faculty and tenured faculty. Faculty members may request that additional peer evaluations be included in their WPAF.

For faculty whose primary assignment is other than teaching (e.g., audio-visual, department chairs, Library) and who do not have a separate retention, tenure, and promotion policy approved by the Academic Senate, primary emphasis shall be on effectiveness in assignment. Evidence of effectiveness in assignment must be based on systematically gathered data. The candidate's assignment must be clearly explained and documentation provided on the quality of performance. In addition, teaching effectiveness shall be evaluated in courses taught by the candidate.

### **1.8.2 Professional Achievement and Growth**

Professional achievement and growth, disciplinary or interdisciplinary, may be exhibited in a variety of ways, including research, publications, clinics, and workshops, being the editor of a refereed professional journal, presentations to professional societies, development of new areas of expertise, attainment of new professional licenses or certification, creative work, curricular and/or programmatic innovation, unpublished manuscripts, or similar work in progress. Although in general, no single category of professional achievement and growth is viewed as more important than others, individual departments may emphasize one category as more important than another within the framework of the department's needs and service to the students, and this emphasis shall be considered in the evaluations.

#### **1.8.2.1 Research and Publication**

Descriptions of publications, presentations to professional societies, research projects or unpublished manuscripts, or copies of said works, shall be included in the WPAF. Scholarly evaluations of such works may also be included. If external reviews of such works are included within departmental RTP criteria, the department peer review committee may obtain such reviews and evaluations after reaching agreement with the candidate about the appropriateness of the reviewers. (See also Section 1.2 regarding external review of materials in the WPAF.) The department peer review committee should include in its report assessment of the quality of the candidate's work.

#### **1.8.2.2 Creative works**

Creative works, such as musical compositions, choreography, art works, films, electronic media productions, literary or dramatic works, designs or inventions, exhibitions or performances shall be submitted to the department peer review committee in whatever form or forms typically employed for evaluation in the relevant field. Such forms may include presenting the creative work itself, a reproduction or replica of the work, or a description of the work, together with whatever critical reviews may be available. The department peer review committee should include in its report assessment of the quality of the candidate's work. Procedures for securing external reviewers and evaluations are those specified under Research and Publication and Section 1.2.

#### **1.8.2.3 Curricular Innovations**

Curricular and/or programmatic innovations in the discipline, across disciplines, or for the benefit of General Education may qualify as professional achievement and growth. Such activities may include the development of original academic programs, new courses or course content, disciplinary and/or pedagogical approaches, applications of technology, etc. Development of new areas of instructional expertise may also be considered in this category. Procedures for securing external reviewers and evaluations are those specified under Research and Publication and Section 1.2.

Research in the discipline, across disciplines, or for the benefit of general education may result in significant curricular developments. Such results should become part of the evidence supporting a candidate's retention, tenure, and promotion.

### **1.8.3 Contributions to Campus and Community (Service)**

Each department shall clearly outline and specify in their department RTP policy what types of contributions to campus and community are needed to meet the department criteria for service. These criteria may be more specific and rigorous for promotion to Professor than for promotion to Associate Professor.

#### **1.8.3.1 Contributions to Campus**

Evidence supporting contributions to campus may include descriptions of the nature and extent of work accomplished, committee documents, letters from students and/or colleagues, project reports, etc. The department peer review committee should include in its report assessment of the nature and quality of the candidate's work in these activities. Contributions may include, but are not limited to, the following: administrative assignments (other than primary assignment), faculty governance, committee work, special advising assignments (e.g., General Education advising, Liberal Studies advising, Special Major advising, etc.), program development, sponsorship of student organizations, and direction of non-instructional activities and projects.

#### **1.8.3.2 Contributions to Profession**

Participation in professional societies or other professional activities may include offices held in professional societies, committee activities, participation on editorial boards or in refereeing, and services provided as a consultant on a pro-bono basis. Emphasis should be placed on those community activities in which the academic expertise of the faculty member is directly applied.

#### **1.8.3.3 Contributions to Community**

Individuals may serve the University using their professional expertise to provide service at the community or city, state, or national levels. Such service must involve participation at a level that makes a contribution to community activities or projects, and that enhances relations between the University and the community. Emphasis should be placed on those community activities in which the academic expertise of the faculty member is directly applied. Descriptions of community service shall be submitted to the department peer review committee.

Descriptions of contributions to community shall be submitted to the department peer review committee. If external reviews of such activities are included within departmental RTP criteria, the department peer review committee shall follow procedures for securing external reviewers and evaluations as specified under Research and Publication and Section 1.2.

## **1.9 APPEAL OF DECISIONS**

A faculty member who has not been retained, tenured, or promoted may request reconsideration of their case. The faculty member requests reconsideration by filing a notice of dispute according to the provisions of Article 10 of the CBA. The faculty member or their representative must file the notice of dispute within forty-two (42) days of receiving the Provost and Vice President's decision not to retain or the President's decision not to tenure or promote.

## **2.0 INTERIM PROVISIONS FOR RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION POLICY**

The revised Retention, Tenure and Promotion Policy adopted by the SF State Academic Senate on November 28, 2006 (F06-241) introduced significant changes in the criteria for retention, tenure and promotion. These changes have been retained in this revised University RTP policy (S19-241). Faculty members who are currently working toward retention, tenure and promotion based on the criteria delineated in the former policies (S88-120/S94-120 for retention and



tenure decisions and F04-28 for promotions decisions) may be disadvantaged by the changes in criteria. Therefore, faculty members with an academic appointment that began prior to Fall 2007 may make a one-time, non-reversible choice to be evaluated according to the criteria as delineated in either the former policies (S88-120/S94-120 for retention and tenure decisions or F04-28 for promotions decisions) or this policy (F19-241). Faculty whose appointment begins Fall 2007 and later shall be evaluated according to this policy (F19-241) – Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Policy.

The Office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development shall provide this information to all such faculty members.



**SAN FRANCISCO  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

Provost & VP Academic Affairs  
Received  
NOV 19 2019  
San Francisco State University

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## ACADEMIC SENATE POLICY

November 15, 2019

**FROM:** Nancy Gerber, Chair  
Academic Senate

**RE:** Routing Sheet for Senate Policy F19-241 Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Policy

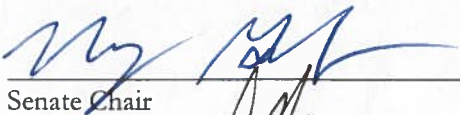
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**SOURCE COMMITTEE:** Faculty Affairs Committee

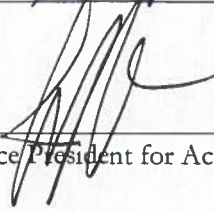
**SUMMARY:**

At its meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 the Academic Senate approved **Senate Policy Revision to F19-241 Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Policy.**

We solicit your concurrence. Thank You.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Senate Chair

Date: 11/18/19

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: 11/25/19

Recommend Approval

Yes       No



# SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

Policy #: F19-241  
 Supersedes: S19-241  
 Senate Approval: 11/12/2019  
 Presidential Approval: XX/XX/XXXX  
 Effective: Fall 2020  
 Last Review: Fall 2019  
 Next Review: Fall 20224

## RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION POLICY

### Rationale

The retention, tenure and promotion policy describes the process, procedures and rules for evaluation of faculty members who are under review in the RTP process.

**Source Committee:** Faculty Affairs Committee

**Unit(s) Responsible for Implementation:** All Colleges and the Library, Office of the Provost, Division of Faculty Affairs

**Consultations:**

### History

Version	Approved	Revisions(s)
8		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.2.1 Change may to should last sentence of first paragraph</li> <li>Section 1.8.3: Adds language about evaluation of service work.</li> </ul>
7	4/18/2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed and thorough review of policy in its entirety including, but not limited to, the following.</li> <li>Moved the section on conflict of interest on UTPC to just under the header of section 1.1, so as to apply to all levels of review.</li> <li>Section 1.1.3: Clarifies that committee members have access to consider all material in a candidate's PAF.</li> </ul>
6	12/06/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.1: Committee Membership, including statements on conflict of interest and roles in RTP committees</li> </ul>
5	05/17/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.2: Greatly expands procedures for developing and revising Departmental RTP criteria.</li> <li>Section 1.6: Department criteria must provide guidelines on criteria for early tenure.</li> <li>Section 1.8: Clarified that departmental RTP criteria must define how teaching effectiveness and contributions to campus and community are evaluated.</li> </ul>
4	5/12/2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enables development of an electronic process for submission and evaluation of WPAFs.</li> </ul>
3	11/1/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
2	2/3/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes made to comply with 2007 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)</li> </ul>
1	11/28/2006	Original. Combined Retention and Tenure Policy (S94-120) and Promotion policy (F04-028) into one document.

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**1.0 RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION POLICY**

This Retention, Tenure and Promotion Policy (henceforth “University RTP policy”) is a revision of the Retention, Tenure and Promotion Policy approved by the Academic Senate on May 12, 2015, and approved by the President on June 24, 2015. (S15-241).

This University RTP policy complies with Articles 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 22 from the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the California Faculty Association and the Board of Trustees of the California State University, Unit 3: Faculty (henceforth “CBA”), ratified on November 12, 2014.

“Tenure” means the right of a faculty member to continue at San Francisco State University subject to the conditions in the CBA.

Advancement in rank is based on merit as demonstrated by teaching effectiveness, professional achievement and growth, and contributions to campus and community (service).

This University RTP policy shall be reviewed, and revised if necessary, at least once every 6 years.

1 [A review of the entire policy was completed by the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) in February  
2 2019.]

### 3 **1.1 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

4 The promotion and tenure committees should be independent across levels; that is, no  
5 individual should actively participate simultaneously on promotion and tenure committees at  
6 two different levels (department, college, and campus). Active participation might include  
7 advocating for or against a candidate, voting for or against a recommendation on tenure or  
8 promotion, or serving on tenure and promotion committees at different levels of review.

9 Chairs of all committees, regardless of level of review, shall ask members to report any  
10 potential conflicts of roles or conflicts of interest when participating in the review of applications  
11 for retention, tenure and/or promotion. As per Senate Policy S17-144, conflict of roles will be  
12 defined as circumstances in which there is a risk that a current or past relationship  
13 compromises, or could have the appearance of compromising, a faculty member's judgment  
14 with regard to the candidate. As per Senate Policy S17-144, conflict of interest, will be defined  
15 as circumstances in which there is a financial connection between a member and a faculty  
16 member under review. If a disagreement arises as to whether a conflict of role or a conflict of  
17 interest exists, the arbitrator will be the Dean of Equity Initiatives and University  
18 Ombudsperson. In cases of conflicts of roles or interests, a UTPC member in conflict shall  
19 recuse themselves from the committee for that year of review and an alternate shall be  
20 selected as per Academic Senate policy. In cases of conflicts of roles or interests, a  
21 department member in conflict shall recuse themselves from the individual candidate's file  
22 review.

#### 23 **1.1.1 Department peer review committee structure**

24 Department peer review committees, also identified in this policy as "RTP committees," shall be  
25 elected by secret ballot by probationary and tenured faculty in the department from among the  
26 tenured full-time faculty. Faculty being considered for promotion and/or tenure are ineligible to  
27 serve on department peer review committees. Faculty on leave are eligible to serve only if they  
28 are willing to serve throughout an academic year. At the request of the department, the  
29 President or designee may agree that faculty participating in the Faculty Early Retirement  
30 Program may be eligible to serve on a department peer review committee. Department peer  
31 review committee members must have a higher rank than those faculty being considered for  
32 promotion.

33 Departments shall have RTP committees that consist of at least three members. Department  
34 peer review committee members shall serve a three-year term of office and may be elected for  
35 subsequent terms. Provision shall be made to ensure continuity of membership so that in any  
36 year there will be carryover of at least one person on a three-member committee and at least  
37 two persons on a five-or-more-member committee. In the event a committee member cannot  
38 fulfill the term of office, a substitute shall be selected through the standard election procedures  
39 to fill out the remainder of the unfulfilled term.

40 Departments may elect one department peer review committee for retention, tenure, and  
41 promotion decisions or elect separate department peer review committees for retention, tenure  
42 and/or promotion.

43 When there are too few eligible faculty to serve on the department peer review committee within  
44 the department, the department shall elect members from among the tenured full time faculty in  
45 related academic disciplines.

46 Faculty holding joint appointments shall be reviewed by tenured faculty from each department in  
47 which the individual holds an appointment. The review may be conducted by each department  
48 separately or by one committee with representation from each department.

49 The department chair is ineligible to serve as a member of the committee, or to participate in  
50 department peer review committee deliberations. They shall make a separate and independent  
51 recommendation on each retention, tenure, or promotion case under consideration. However,  
52 when a department chair is under review for retention, promotion and/or tenure, or when they  
53 are not currently at a higher rank than the faculty under review, they may not make separate  
54 and independent chair level recommendations for faculty under review in their department.

### 55 **1.1.2 The University Tenure and Promotions Committee (UTPC)**

56 The University Tenure and Promotions Committee (henceforth "UTPC") shall consist of five  
57 members, elected according to the following procedures. UTPC members must be tenured  
58 Professors. However, the President or designee may agree that faculty participating in the  
59 Faculty Early Retirement Program be eligible to serve. The chair shall receive one course  
60 release for two semesters, and the remaining members shall receive one course release for one  
61 semester. During the spring semester, one tenured Professor from each unit (College or  
62 Library) that does not have a member continuing on UTPC shall be nominated according to the  
63 procedures for electing College representatives to the Academic Senate. An all-university  
64 election shall be held by the end of April to elect the members of UTPC from the pool of  
65 nominees. Each faculty person may vote for as many persons as there are vacant seats in this  
66 election. Those receiving the highest vote tally shall be elected to the committee. In case of a tie  
67 vote for the last seat, a run-off election between the tied candidates shall be conducted.

68 College deans, University and College administrators, department chairs, and school directors  
69 who have responsibility for RTP review, and members of department peer review committees,  
70 members of the Academic Senate and Academic Freedom Committee are not eligible to serve  
71 on UTPC.

72 In the event a College or the Library does not have at least two eligible tenured Professors or  
73 Librarians, the unit shall have the option of recommending its nominee to the University election  
74 from the pool of eligible tenured Professors University-wide. The College or Library shall decide  
75 upon its nominee through a unit election process.

76 If a vacancy occurs on UTPC after the University election, the person with the next highest  
77 number of votes in the University election shall be appointed. If there is not an available  
78 candidate with the next highest number of votes, then the Academic Senate will hold a special  
79 election to fill the vacancy.

80 Each member of UTPC serves a term of two years. Members may succeed themselves in office  
81 but cannot serve for more than four consecutive years.

82 The members of UTPC shall elect one of their members to serve as chair. The chair's term is  
83 one year.

84 UTPC may participate in meetings having to do with general promotions policies and processes  
85 where such meetings or communication sessions do not involve discussion of individual cases.

### 86 **1.1.3 University Tenure and Promotion Committee (UTPC) Charge**

87 The UTPC has the following responsibilities:

88 1. The UTPC will consider recommendations from the department RTP committee, from the  
89 department Chair, and from the Dean concurrent with the Provost's review of those  
90 recommendations.

- 91 2. All cases will be carefully and completely reviewed. The Committee will pay special  
92 attention to cases where there is disagreement between the Dean, the Chair and/or the  
93 department RTP committee. Such cases will be carefully and completely reviewed.
- 94 3. The recommendations from prior levels will be examined to be certain that procedures  
95 and criteria have been correctly followed.
- 96 4. The Committee will have the authority to consider all materials in the Personnel Action  
97 file and Working Personnel Action File (henceforth "PAF" and "WPAF") and compare it with  
98 departmental RTP criteria.
- 99 5. The Committee will be aware that departmental criteria for tenure and for promotion may  
100 differ and will pay attention to both.
- 101 6. All UTPC considerations must correspond with department RTP criteria (Department  
102 RTP policy).
- 103 7. The UTPC and the Provost will confer before making their recommendations to the  
104 President.

105

106 **1.2 GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES FOR RETENTION, TENURE, AND**  
107 **PROMOTION (RTP)**

108 These principles and procedures apply to all eligible faculty unit employees, who are referred to  
109 as "faculty members" in this document. In this document, the term "dean" includes all College  
110 deans and the University Librarian.

111 **1.2.1 Department Criteria for Retention, Tenure and Promotion**

112 It is the responsibility of the department to establish clearly the department's expectations for  
113 retention, tenure, and promotion (department RTP criteria) consistent with this University RTP  
114 policy. Department RTP criteria will be approved by the tenured and probationary faculty in the  
115 department and will be developed in consultation with the Dean of the college and the Dean of  
116 Faculty Affairs and Professional Development, and must be approved by the Dean of their  
117 college and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, via the Dean of Faculty Affairs  
118 and Professional Development. Departments ~~may~~ should develop criteria for demonstrating  
119 professional ethics and principles, and accepting responsibility for working effectively with  
120 colleagues to achieve department, college and university goals.

121 The department is also responsible for making clear in its departmental criteria, the  
122 requirements for documenting the quality and relevance of the work accomplished, including an  
123 articulation of forms of peer review relevant to its discipline.

124 If external reviews for tenure and promotion are included within departmental criteria, those  
125 criteria should establish guidelines and a process for soliciting such reviews for tenure,  
126 promotion to Associate Professor and Professor. Faculty candidates may request external  
127 reviews to be solicited by their departmental RTP committee and included prior to the closing of  
128 their WPAF file.

129 It is further the responsibility of the department to review, and revise if necessary, its  
130 expectations and criteria for retention, tenure and promotion at least once every 6 years.  
131 Revisions of departmental RTP criteria must be approved by a simple majority of the tenured  
132 and probationary faculty in the department, the Dean of the college and the Provost and Vice  
133 President for Academic Affairs, via the Dean of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development.  
134 When revisions are made to the departmental criteria, departments shall include provisions,

135 within the revised departmental criteria, that allow probationary faculty to choose once between  
136 existing criteria and new criteria.

### 137 **1.2.2 Processes around evaluation of eligible faculty**

138 All eligible faculty shall be evaluated solely according to the criteria and procedures contained in  
139 this University RTP policy, the departmental RTP criteria, and the CBA. This University RTP  
140 policy as well as the departmental RTP criteria shall be provided by the department chair to  
141 eligible faculty no later than 14 days after the first day of instruction of the academic term. In the  
142 spring semester prior to commencement of the annual evaluation, the department RTP  
143 committee shall meet with eligible faculty to provide assistance with the departmental RTP  
144 criteria under which they will be evaluated. Department RTP policies and the membership of the  
145 current year's retention, tenure, and promotions committees shall be forwarded to the Academic  
146 Senate, the University Tenure and Promotions Committee, the Dean of Faculty Affairs and  
147 Professional Development and the College dean according to the deadline on the Executive  
148 Calendar.

149 All committee deliberations are always confidential, unless superseded by the current CSU  
150 executive orders.

151 Recommendations regarding retention, tenure, and promotion are confidential except that the  
152 affected faculty member, department RTP committee, department chair, dean/university  
153 librarian, UTPC, and the Provost shall have access to the reviews and recommendations for all  
154 levels of review.

### 155 **1.2.3 Personnel Action File and Working Personnel Action File**

156 The faculty member being reviewed is responsible for the preparation and submission of an up-  
157 to-date curriculum vitae and all materials they wish to have considered prior to the date the file  
158 is closed.

159 It is the obligation of every person involved in the evaluation process to make a diligent effort to  
160 obtain factual evidence, to verify the accuracy of data offered, and to evaluate the performance  
161 of the faculty member under consideration. Department peer review committees, department  
162 chairs, and administrators are responsible for identifying materials related to the evaluation not  
163 provided by the faculty member and for placing these materials in the WPAF prior to the date  
164 the file is closed. Reviews and recommendations for the purpose of decisions relating to  
165 retention, tenure, and promotion shall be based solely on material contained in the WPAF and  
166 the Personnel Action File (henceforth "PAF"). Faculty members shall have access to all  
167 materials to be placed in the WPAF at least five days prior to such placement.

168 The WPAF shall be defined as that portion of the PAF specifically generated for use in an  
169 evaluation cycle. Guidelines for preparing WPAFs are provided by the Office of Faculty Affairs in  
170 the handbook titled Preparing for Tenure and Promotion. Revisions to the handbook will be  
171 made in consultation with the Academic Senate and be in compliance with the CBA and this  
172 University RTP policy. The WPAF contains the faculty member's materials and index, student  
173 evaluations of teaching effectiveness, and all other information provided by faculty, students,  
174 academic administrators, and others who must be identified by name. When submitted, the  
175 WPAF should contain the following:

- 176 ● Cover sheet
- 177 ● Curriculum vitae (candidates are encouraged to use the curriculum vitae format provided  
178 by the Office of Faculty Affairs in its handbook Preparing for Tenure and Promotion)
- 179 ● Department/Program RTP criteria



- 180 ● Reports and rebuttals, if any, from all prior substantive reviews at San Francisco State of  
181 candidates applying for tenure and promotion (for promotion, only reports and rebuttals  
182 from previous promotion reviews)
- 183 ● Candidate rebuttal to dean's recommendation (if any)
- 184 ● Dean's recommendation
- 185 ● Candidate rebuttal to chair's recommendation (if any)
- 186 ● Department chair's recommendation
- 187 ● Candidate rebuttal to department peer review committee recommendation (if any)
- 188 ● Department peer review committee recommendation and report
- 189 ● Candidates are encouraged to provide a self-statement of teaching effectiveness,  
190 professional achievement and growth, and contributions to campus and community that  
191 provides an introduction to the candidate's accomplishments. The goal of the self-  
192 statement is to provide an introduction of the candidate's materials within each area for  
193 subsequent levels of review. It should provide a context for understanding the  
194 candidate's accomplishments within each area. It is recommended that the statement for  
195 each area (effectiveness in teaching or area of primary assignment, professional  
196 achievement and growth, and contributions to campus and community) not exceed 750  
197 words.
- 198 ● A set of materials representing evidence of the candidate's accomplishments in teaching  
199 effectiveness or area of primary assignment, professional achievement and growth, and  
200 contributions to campus and community.

201

202 All information provided by faculty, students, academic administrators and others must be  
203 identified by the name of the source. Routine student evaluations, however, remain anonymous  
204 and are identified only by their course, section, and semester. Any student communications  
205 other than these routine evaluations must be identified by name.

206 The chair of the department peer review committee is responsible for the generation and  
207 maintenance of the WPAF until the file is forwarded to the department chair. The chair of the  
208 department peer review committee shall complete the appropriate sections of the RTP Cover  
209 Sheet and insert it in the WPAF prior to forwarding the file to the next level of review. At each  
210 level of review, the RTP Cover Sheet shall be completed for that level of review.

211 The WPAF shall be considered complete with respect to documentation of performance for the  
212 current cycle of review on the date published in the Executive Calendar. After this date, the  
213 insertion of new material into the WPAF shall be limited to those items that became accessible  
214 only after this deadline and have been approved for inclusion by the department RTP  
215 committee. The candidate may appeal determinations to the College Leave with Pay  
216 Committee. Any material inserted after the deadline shall be returned to all earlier levels of  
217 review for evaluation and comment beginning with the department peer review committee.

218 The candidate is responsible for the identifying of materials they wish to be considered and for  
219 the submission of such materials as may be accessible to them. Department peer review  
220 committees and administrators are responsible for identifying and providing materials relating to  
221 evaluation that are not provided by the candidate. If the department chair, the dean, Provost and  
222 Vice President for Academic Affairs or UTPC discover that required evaluation documents are  
223 missing, the WPAF must be returned to the level at which the requisite documentation should  
224 have been provided. Such material shall be provided in a timely manner.

225 After the closing of the WPAF, a request for an external review of materials submitted by a  
226 faculty member may be initiated at any level of review by any party to the review. External  
227 review is defined as off-campus impartial evaluation of materials in the WPAF. Such a request  
228 shall document the special circumstances that necessitate an outside reviewer and the nature of  
229 the materials needing the evaluation of an external reviewer. The request must be approved by  
230 the President or designee with the concurrence of the candidate.

231 In the event the President makes a decision regarding retention, tenure, or promotion for  
232 reasons other than the professional qualifications, work performance, or personal attributes of  
233 the faculty member as documented in the WPAF, then these written reasons must be given to  
234 the faculty member immediately and inserted in the PAF.

### 235 **1.3 OPERATIONAL CALENDAR FOR RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION** 236 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

237 Dates for the closing of the WPAF and the submission of reviews and recommendations to the  
238 next level of review shall be determined annually and published in the Executive Calendar.  
239 There shall be a minimum of two weeks for review at successive levels. All cases involving  
240 tenure and promotion must allow a minimum of one month total for consideration by both the  
241 Provost and the President. All evaluations shall be conducted and completed within the period  
242 of time specified by the Executive Calendar. The WPAF shall be forwarded in a timely manner  
243 to the next level of review. If any level of a retention, tenure, or promotion review has not been  
244 completed within the specified period of time the review shall be automatically transferred to the  
245 next level of review or appropriate administrator and the faculty member shall be so notified.

#### 246 **Notification of Retention, Tenure, and Promotion Decisions**

247 Faculty in their first and second year of probation shall be notified of the final decision on  
248 retention by February 15. The decision shall be for retention or termination.

249 Faculty in their third, fourth, fifth, and sixth years of probation shall be notified of retention,  
250 appointment with tenure, or terminal year appointment by June 1. If tenure is awarded, the letter  
251 shall indicate the effective date, which is the beginning of the academic year following the year  
252 in which tenure is awarded.

253 Terminal year appointments are limited to probationary faculty who have served a minimum of  
254 three (3) years of probation.

255 Faculty being considered for promotion shall be notified no later than June 15. If promotion is  
256 awarded, the letter shall indicate the effective date, which is the beginning of the academic year  
257 following the year in which promotion is granted.

### 258 **1.4 DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE LEVEL REVIEW PROCEDURES**

259 The main responsibility for evaluating and interpreting the significance of a candidate's  
260 endeavors and performance must reside with the department peer review committee,  
261 department chair, and College dean. These three parties to the retention, tenure, and  
262 promotions processes must meet this responsibility in order for the processes to function at an  
263 acceptable professional level.

264 At the beginning of the fall semester, the college office shall access the online report for faculty  
265 eligible for retention, tenure and promotion. For promotion decisions, the College deans shall  
266 notify in writing eligible faculty, department peer review committees, and department chairs.  
267 Faculty members who are eligible for review for promotion but decline to be considered must  
268 notify the department chair, department peer review committee, College dean, UTPC and Dean  
269 of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development in writing that they do not wish to be

270 considered. Candidates for promotion may withdraw without prejudice from consideration at any  
271 level of review.

272 The department peer review committee shall notify all eligible faculty of the evaluation criteria  
273 and procedures (including due dates) prior to the beginning of each annual evaluation process.  
274 These criteria and procedures must be adhered to throughout the process.

275 The department peer review committee shall assemble all information relevant to the evaluation  
276 by the closing date published in the Executive Calendar, as described in Section 1.2, General  
277 Principles and Procedures for Retention, Tenure, and Promotion. All information considered by  
278 the department peer review committee, except routine student evaluations, must be identified by  
279 the name of the source.

280 For all faculty members with teaching assignments, Student Evaluations of Teaching  
281 Effectiveness (SETEs) for all classes taught shall be placed in the WPAF.

282 Evaluation reports and recommendations shall be approved by a simple majority of the  
283 membership of the department peer review committee. Abstentions shall be counted as a no  
284 vote.

285 Upon completion of its deliberations, the department peer review committee shall prepare a  
286 written report summarizing the data sources used, the nature of its evidence, its evaluation of  
287 the evidence, and its concluding recommendations. The department peer review committee  
288 shall sign and give its report and recommendations to the faculty member prior to forwarding it  
289 to the next level of review. Whenever a candidate is not recommended for retention, tenure, or  
290 promotion by the department peer review committee, the committee must provide the candidate,  
291 in writing, with its reasons for recommending against retention, tenure or promotion. If the  
292 decision is against promotion, then the committee must specify ways in which the candidate  
293 must improve in order to merit promotion. The faculty member shall sign and date receipt of  
294 their copy.

295 The department chair shall prepare a separate recommendation. It shall be their duty to give a  
296 copy of this recommendation to the faculty member before forwarding it and the WPAF to the  
297 dean.

298 Differences of opinion and problems of communication should be resolved to the extent possible  
299 at the level of origin before being forwarded to the next level of review. In the event of  
300 disagreement between the department peer review committee and the department chair's  
301 recommendation or between the dean and the department peer review committee or the chair,  
302 the dean shall attempt to secure resolution through consultation with department peer review  
303 committee and the department chair.

304 The dean shall prepare a separate recommendation, and shall give a copy of the  
305 recommendation to the faculty member prior to forwarding the WPAF and recommendation to  
306 the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and UTPC.

307 At each level of review, the faculty member shall be given a copy of the recommendation prior  
308 to forwarding to the next level of review. At all levels of review, the faculty member shall have  
309 the right to respond or submit a rebuttal statement in writing no later than ten (10) calendar days  
310 following receipt of the recommendation. A copy of the response or rebuttal statement shall  
311 become part of the WPAF prior to being forwarded to the next level, and shall be sent to any  
312 previous levels of review. Upon request, the faculty member may be provided an opportunity to  
313 discuss the recommendation with the recommending party. The right to rebut or to request a  
314 meeting shall not require alteration of the timelines.

315 **1.5 THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL REVIEW PROCEDURES:**

316 **FOR RETENTION DECISIONS:**

317 The decision for retention of candidates rests with the President, or designee. As the  
318 President's designee, the Provost may authorize reappointments in consultation with the college  
319 dean and others as required in each instance.

320 **FOR TENURE AND PROMOTION DECISIONS:**

321 Each level of review will have access to the WPAF according to the RTP calendar.

322 Tenure and promotion decisions are made by the University President. At the University level,  
323 the WPAF is reviewed by UTPC and by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.  
324 UTPC and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs shall each review the  
325 recommendations from previous levels and the WPAF and prepare the recommendations for  
326 the President. Copies of their separate recommendations and reasons therefore shall be sent to  
327 the candidate ten days prior to forwarding the WPAF to the President, according to deadlines  
328 published in the Executive Calendar. Recommendations shall be made as early in the year as  
329 possible and shall be forwarded to the President no later than May 15.

330 UTPC and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs shall meet to discuss their  
331 recommendations prior to forwarding their final recommendations to the candidate and the  
332 President. The President shall meet together with UTPC and the Provost and Vice President for  
333 Academic Affairs to discuss their recommendations prior to making their final decision.

334 All proceedings of UTPC are conducted in strict confidence. No member of UTPC is authorized  
335 to divulge any information with regard to Committee deliberations or meetings with the Provost  
336 and Vice President for Academic Affairs or the President to any person outside the Committee.  
337 Although abstentions are not votes, and they have no effect on the determination of a majority  
338 of the votes cast, promotion evaluation reports and recommendations shall be approved by a  
339 simple majority (3 out of 5) of the committee membership.

340 The President shall state their reasons for approval or denial in their letter of decision.

341 At the end of the tenure and promotions process, after tenure and promotions decisions have  
342 been announced, a copy of the WPAF and copies of the President's letter informing faculty of  
343 his/her their decision shall be sent to the official PAF in the Faculty Records Office.

344 Following the final promotions announcement by the President, the University Tenure and  
345 Promotions Committee shall report to the Senate the number of its positive and negative  
346 recommendations. This report may also call attention to ways in which the promotions  
347 operations may be improved. The report must be signed by all Committee members.

348 **1.6 RETENTION AND TENURE RECOMMENDATIONS**

349 There will be an annual review of each probationary faculty member by the department peer  
350 review committee, the department chair, and the dean for the purpose of recommending  
351 retention, termination, terminal year appointment, or tenure to the Provost and Vice President  
352 for Academic Affairs.

353 The purpose of retention and tenure review is to assess the probationer's performance against  
354 this University RTP policy and departmental RTP criteria in order to make personnel  
355 recommendations and to provide helpful information to the candidate about performance  
356 expectations. The quality of the review is dependent upon the department peer review  
357 committee and chair taking full responsibility for conducting the review at the departmental level  
358 and upon the candidate's understanding that they are an integral part of the evaluation process  
359 and must provide requested information on time and in the format specified.

360 **1.6.1 Probationary Reviews**

- 361 a) The first year review will, of necessity, occur during the first semester of probation. This  
362 review shall be limited to a recommendation for retention or termination. The purpose of this  
363 review is to discuss with the faculty member the department's criteria for retention, tenure, and  
364 promotion, the content and organization of the WPAF, and this University RTP policy.
- 365 b) The second year review will be based upon performance during the first year of  
366 probation. It shall contain an evaluation of teaching effectiveness and any other descriptive  
367 material or commentary relevant to the other retention criteria. The recommendation shall be for  
368 retention or termination.
- 369 c) The third year review shall be an update of the second year review. An update should  
370 include a revised curriculum vitae (C.V.). The recommendation shall be for retention or  
371 reappointment for a terminal year.
- 372 d) The fourth year review shall be a comprehensive evaluation of the first three years of  
373 probation addressing all criteria for retention. The recommendation shall be for retention or  
374 reappointment for a terminal year.
- 375 e) The fifth year review shall be an update of the fourth year review. An update should  
376 include a revised curriculum vitae (C.V.). This review will identify any recurring problems that  
377 must be resolved prior to a tenure decision. The recommendation shall be for retention or a  
378 terminal year appointment.
- 379 f) The sixth year review shall be a comprehensive summative evaluation of the preceding  
380 five years of probation according to all criteria for tenure. The recommendation shall be for  
381 tenure or a terminal year appointment.
- 382 g) Department RTP committees reserve the right to perform a comprehensive evaluation in  
383 years when a comprehensive review is not required by this policy. The RTP committee shall  
384 notify the candidate by the end of the preceding academic year if this decision is made. The  
385 probationary faculty member may request a comprehensive evaluation in any year.

#### 386 **1.6.2 Early Tenure**

387 The President in special circumstances may award tenure earlier than the normal six-year  
388 probationary period. A recommendation for the award of early tenure shall be accompanied by a  
389 comprehensive evaluation of the entire probationary period according to all the criteria for  
390 tenure.

391 A probationary faculty member may request review for tenure in any probationary year.

392 Departments will include, in their departmental RTP criteria, clear guidelines as to what ~~might~~  
393 constitutes the special circumstances for a candidate to be recommended for early tenure.

394 A faculty member on a professional leave with pay shall, when otherwise eligible, accrue a  
395 maximum of one (1) year service credit as part of the probationary period. The granting of full or  
396 partial leaves without pay to probationary faculty is at the discretion of the department and dean.

397 If the maximum allowable time credited towards the probationary period has not been reached,  
398 probationary faculty on partial professional leave without pay shall be evaluated for retention  
399 and tenure according to the same procedures, criteria and time frames in effect for all  
400 probationary faculty. The time spent on a professional leave of absence without pay counts as  
401 part of the probationary period.

#### 402 **1.6.3 Tenure at Time of Appointment**

403 The President in special circumstances may award tenure at the time of appointment.  
404 Appointments with tenure shall be made only after an evaluation and recommendation by the

405 appropriate department and shall be based upon an assessment of performance prior to the  
406 time of appointment. The criteria to be used are the same as those for regular tenure and  
407 promotion and they are described below.

#### 408 **1.7 PROMOTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

409 A faculty member shall not normally be promoted during probation. A probationary faculty  
410 member shall normally be considered for promotion at the same time they are considered for  
411 tenure.

412 Promotion of a tenured faculty member shall normally be effective at the beginning of the sixth  
413 (6th) year after appointment to their current academic rank/classification. The performance  
414 review for promotion shall take place during the year preceding the effective date of promotion.  
415 This provision shall not apply if the faculty member has requested in writing that they not be  
416 considered for promotion.

417 In some circumstances, a faculty member may, upon application and with a positive  
418 recommendation from their department or equivalent unit, be considered for promotion to  
419 Professor or Librarian equivalent prior to having satisfied the service requirements as described  
420 above.

421 Promotions may be granted to faculty who have been engaged in administrative activities  
422 outside the department. Such promotions must be made according to the procedures in this  
423 policy.

424 Activities while in current rank are of primary relevance to promotion considerations. Verifiable  
425 accomplishments while in the same rank at other institutions or equivalent accomplishments in a  
426 non-academic setting may be included in the WPAF. When former lecturers have performed  
427 academic work comparable to that of faculty at the rank to which they have been appointed, that  
428 work may be used toward promotion. Activities engaged in while in their former rank are  
429 relevant when they form part of a process that occurs, in part, while the candidate is in current  
430 rank.

#### 431 **1.8 RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION CRITERIA**

432 The following criteria are to be employed at all levels of decision-making in respect to retention,  
433 tenure, and promotion.

434 The criteria for retention, tenure, and promotion are divided into three areas (a) teaching  
435 effectiveness and/or primary assignment, (b) professional achievement and growth, and (c)  
436 contributions to campus and community. Candidates for retention, tenure, and promotion shall  
437 be evaluated on all criteria. For teaching faculty, excellence in teaching is required. For faculty  
438 whose primary assignment is other than teaching, excellence in the primary assignment is  
439 required. To merit tenure and/or promotion all candidates must meet the standard of excellence  
440 normally expected of faculty and required by their department's RTP criteria.

441 Effective teaching is exhibited in the classroom, research laboratory, or in the community. It is  
442 demonstrated when faculty join with students to develop knowledge and skills through  
443 classroom experiences, scholarly research, creative activities, and community service.  
444 Departments should decide the priority of non-teaching criteria.

445 Achievements in current rank should demonstrate promise of meritorious activities comparable  
446 to the achievements and services expected of faculty who serve at the rank to which the  
447 individual is to be promoted. The intensity of the evaluation process will vary in accordance with  
448 the academic position of the faculty member; thus, promotion to Professor requires more  
449 rigorous standards than promotion to Associate Professor, as determined by the department

450 RTP criteria. Department RTP criteria ~~should~~ shall clearly define the expectations for promotion  
451 to Professor as distinct from the expectations for promotion to Associate Professor.

### 452 **1.8.1 Teaching Effectiveness**

453 An assessment of teaching effectiveness is required for every year of probation. A faculty  
454 member should maintain a scholarly level of instruction, show commitment to high academic  
455 and pedagogical standards, be effective in instructing and advising students, guide and motivate  
456 students, and apply evaluative standards fairly and appropriately with respect to all students.

457 Assessment of teaching effectiveness must be based on evidence obtained systematically from  
458 students and colleagues as well as from the candidate. This evidence may be provided in a  
459 variety of ways:

- 460 ● A scholarly level of instruction may be demonstrated by evidence such as continuing  
461 study, attendance at professional conferences and workshops, currency of course  
462 materials, and course and curriculum development, whether disciplinary or  
463 interdisciplinary.
- 464 ● Commitment to high academic standards may be demonstrated by evidence such as  
465 written course requirements, evaluation procedures, and student performance.
- 466 ● Commitment to high pedagogical standards may be demonstrated by evidence such as  
467 continued critical examination of one's teaching behavior, participation in instructional  
468 development seminars and workshops, innovations in teaching techniques, and currency  
469 in instructional theory and research.
- 470 ● Effectiveness in instructing students may be demonstrated by evidence such as student  
471 evaluations, comments, and letters; and peer review and observations of teaching.
- 472 ● Effectiveness in advising may be demonstrated by evidence such as descriptions of the  
473 nature and extent of advising activities, student letters and interviews, and descriptions  
474 of thesis and special project advising.
- 475 ● Effectiveness in guiding and motivating students may be demonstrated by evidence  
476 such as student evaluations, comments, and letters; examples of feedback given to  
477 students; and examples of willingness to confer with students.
- 478 ● Fair and appropriate application of evaluative standards may be demonstrated by  
479 evidence such as student evaluations, comments, and letters.

480  
481 The department, in making its evaluation of teaching effectiveness, must indicate the qualitative  
482 bases on which that judgment was made. A list of all courses taught, and those courses  
483 evaluated, should be included. If the data used to evaluate teaching effectiveness include  
484 student comments, a sample of this material shall be included. Data that have been  
485 summarized statistically (e.g., overall mean ratings) should be accompanied by the more  
486 detailed data (e.g., time means, course means, etc.) on which they were based. Comparative  
487 data may also be used, but should indicate the basis for comparison (e.g., department as a  
488 whole, faculty at the same rank, faculty teaching same or similar courses, candidate's ratings  
489 over time, etc.) This evaluation should also reflect the department's need for instruction at  
490 different levels, individualized and specialized instruction, and student advising.

491 Departmental criteria shall define how teaching effectiveness is evaluated. The documentation  
492 shall include classroom materials, syllabi, and student evaluations, and may include a range of  
493 peer evaluations, such as yearly classroom visits for probationary faculty and tenured faculty.  
494 Faculty members may request that additional peer evaluations be included in their WPAF.

495 For faculty whose primary assignment is other than teaching (e.g., audio-visual, department  
496 chairs, Library) and who do not have a separate retention, tenure, and promotion policy  
497 approved by the Academic Senate, primary emphasis shall be on effectiveness in assignment.  
498 Evidence of effectiveness in assignment must be based on systematically gathered data. The  
499 candidate's assignment must be clearly explained and documentation provided on the quality of  
500 performance. In addition, teaching effectiveness shall be evaluated in courses taught by the  
501 candidate.

## 502 **1.8.2 Professional Achievement and Growth**

503 Professional achievement and growth, disciplinary or interdisciplinary, may be exhibited in a  
504 variety of ways, including research, publications, clinics, and workshops, being the editor of a  
505 refereed professional journal, presentations to professional societies, development of new areas  
506 of expertise, attainment of new professional licenses or certification, creative work, curricular  
507 and/or programmatic innovation, unpublished manuscripts, or similar work in progress. Although  
508 in general, no single category of professional achievement and growth is viewed as more  
509 important than others, individual departments may emphasize one category as more important  
510 than another within the framework of the department's needs and service to the students, and  
511 this emphasis shall be considered in the evaluations.

### 512 **1.8.2.1 Research and Publication**

513 Descriptions of publications, presentations to professional societies, research projects or  
514 unpublished manuscripts, or copies of said works, shall be included in the WPAF. Scholarly  
515 evaluations of such works may also be included. If external reviews of such works are included  
516 within departmental RTP criteria, the department peer review committee may obtain such  
517 reviews and evaluations after reaching agreement with the candidate about the appropriateness  
518 of the reviewers. (See also Section 1.2 regarding external review of materials in the WPAF.)  
519 The department peer review committee should include in its report assessment of the quality of  
520 the candidate's work.

### 521 **1.8.2.2 Creative works**

522 Creative works, such as musical compositions, choreography, art works, films, electronic media  
523 productions, literary or dramatic works, designs or inventions, exhibitions or performances shall  
524 be submitted to the department peer review committee in whatever form or forms typically  
525 employed for evaluation in the relevant field. Such forms may include presenting the creative  
526 work itself, a reproduction or replica of the work, or a description of the work, together with  
527 whatever critical reviews may be available. The department peer review committee should  
528 include in its report assessment of the quality of the candidate's work. Procedures for securing  
529 external reviewers and evaluations are those specified under Research and Publication and  
530 Section 1.2.

### 531 **1.8.2.3 Curricular Innovations**

532 Curricular and/or programmatic innovations in the discipline, across disciplines, or for the benefit  
533 of General Education may qualify as professional achievement and growth. Such activities may  
534 include the development of original academic programs, new courses or course content,  
535 disciplinary and/or pedagogical approaches, applications of technology, etc. Development of  
536 new areas of instructional expertise may also be considered in this category. Procedures for  
537 securing external reviewers and evaluations are those specified under Research and  
538 Publication and Section 1.2.



539 Research in the discipline, across disciplines, or for the benefit of general education may result  
540 in significant curricular developments. Such results should become part of the evidence  
541 supporting a candidate's retention, tenure, and promotion.

### 542 **1.8.3 Contributions to Campus and Community (Service)**

543 Each department shall clearly outline and specify in their department RTP policy what types of  
544 contributions to campus and community are needed to meet the department criteria for service.  
545 These criteria may be more specific and rigorous for promotion to Professor than for promotion  
546 to Associate Professor.

#### 547 **1.8.3.1 Contributions to Campus**

548 Evidence supporting contributions to campus may include descriptions of the nature and extent  
549 of work accomplished, committee documents, letters from students and/or colloques, project  
550 reports, etc. The department peer review committee should include in its report assessment of  
551 the nature and quality of the candidate's work in these activities. Contributions may include, but  
552 are not limited to, the following: administrative assignments (other than primary assignment),  
553 faculty governance, committee work, special advising assignments (e.g., General Education  
554 advising, Liberal Studies advising, Special Major advising, etc.), program development,  
555 sponsorship of student organizations, and direction of non-instructional activities and projects.

#### 556 **1.8.3.2 Contributions to Profession**

557 Participation in professional societies or other professional activities may include offices held in  
558 professional societies, committee activities, participation on editorial boards or in refereeing, and  
559 services provided as a consultant on a pro-bono basis. Emphasis should be placed on those  
560 community activities in which the academic expertise of the faculty member is directly applied.

#### 561 **1.8.3.3 Contributions to Community**

562 Individuals may serve the University using their professional expertise to provide service at the  
563 community or city, state, or national levels. Such service must involve participation at a level  
564 that makes a contribution to community activities or projects, and that enhances relations  
565 between the University and the community. Emphasis should be placed on those community  
566 activities in which the academic expertise of the faculty member is directly applied. Descriptions  
567 of community service shall be submitted to the department peer review committee.

568 Descriptions of contributions to community shall be submitted to the department peer review  
569 committee. If external reviews of such activities are included within departmental RTP criteria,  
570 the department peer review committee shall follow procedures for securing external reviewers  
571 and evaluations as specified under Research and Publication and Section 1.2.

### 572 **1.9 APPEAL OF DECISIONS**

573 A faculty member who has not been retained, tenured, or promoted may request  
574 reconsideration of their case. The faculty member requests reconsideration by filing a notice of  
575 dispute according to the provisions of Article 10 of the CBA. The faculty member or their  
576 representative must file the notice of dispute within forty-two (42) days of receiving the Provost  
577 and Vice President's decision not to retain or the President's decision not to tenure or promote.

### 578 **2.0 INTERIM PROVISIONS FOR RETENTION, TENURE, AND PROMOTION POLICY**

579 The revised Retention, Tenure and Promotion Policy adopted by the SF State Academic Senate  
580 on November 28, 2006 (F06-241) introduced significant changes in the criteria for retention,  
581 tenure and promotion. These changes have been retained in this revised University RTP policy  
582 (S19-241). Faculty members who are currently working toward retention, tenure and promotion  
583 based on the criteria delineated in the former policies (S88-120/S94-120 for retention and

584 tenure decisions and F04-28 for promotions decisions) may be disadvantaged by the changes  
585 in criteria. Therefore, faculty members with an academic appointment that began prior to Fall  
586 2007 may make a one-time, non-reversible choice to be evaluated according to the criteria as  
587 delineated in either the former policies (S88-120/S94-120 for retention and tenure decisions or  
588 F04-28 for promotions decisions) or this policy (SF19-241). Faculty whose appointment begins  
589 Fall 2007 and later shall be evaluated according to this policy (SF19-241) – Retention, Tenure,  
590 and Promotion Policy.

591 The Office of Faculty Affairs and Professional Development shall provide this information to all  
592 such faculty members.

593 ~~Approved by the Academic Senate at its meeting on April 9, 2019~~

594

595 ~~Approved by SF State President Leslie Wong on 4/18/2019~~

596