

Motion on Unit-Level Determination of Tenure Standards

Passed unanimously by the Arts and Sciences Council

Nov. 9, 2021

Whereas Regent Law 5.A.1.B affirms that faculty have principal responsibility over the decisions and recommendations regarding the evaluation of faculty, and Regent Policy 5.D.3.A explicitly notes that Primary Units develop the criteria that define expectations in terms of their scholarly field(s); and

Whereas Arts and Sciences represents a diverse set of disciplines and departments, who have similarly diverse sets of norms, standards, expectations and procedures related to the evaluation of scholarship for promotion and tenure; and

Whereas recent Administration policy interpretations regarding the time frame of scholarly material that can be considered in promotion and tenure review for all academic units have no explicit requirement in Regent Laws and Policies; therefore let it be

Resolved that the Arts and Sciences Council strongly affirms the principal role of faculty governance in critical matters such as promotion and tenure decisions by academic units. Recent policy interpretations by the Administration, for example changes to the external letter solicitation template and to the chair's manual regarding promotion and tenure, are inconsistent with this principal role of the faculty. Decisions and evaluations regarding the time frame of scholarly material to be considered in promotion and tenure review processes should be determined by individual academic units, in accordance with Regent Law and Policy.