

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences
Policies on Faculty Personnel Actions

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PART I. Policies for tenure-track and tenured faculty

I. Introduction

The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences is comprised of faculty located on campus in Chapel Hill and faculty located at the Institute of Marine Science in Morehead City. The principal aims of the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences are to preserve, increase, and transmit knowledge and understanding of the earth's systems, the environments they support and the complex interactions they have with humans; and to translate this knowledge and understanding into technologies, products, policy and capacity. These aims are achieved by the scholarly activity of the faculty, by their teaching and training of undergraduate and graduate students, and by engagement beyond the department. In hiring and promoting faculty, the Department seeks to maintain its high standards in scholarship and teaching. It also encourages service to the Department, the University, the professional community, the state, the nation and the world; as appropriate, it also encourages engagement with groups outside academia. The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences seeks to be objective, fair, and honest in matters of hiring and promotion. It reaffirms at this time its goal of quality combined with diversity. All hiring and promotion take place within the context of departmental needs and resources. The Department subscribes wholeheartedly to the guidelines of Affirmative Action and commits itself to make personnel decisions with all possible justice to both the University and the individuals concerned.

The Department's policies are subject to those set forth in the following University publications. The most recent edition of each document takes precedence.

- A. The UNC System Policy Manual and Code (https://www.northcarolina.edu/apps/policy/index.php?tab=policy_manual).
- B. Trustee Policies and Regulations Governing Academic Tenure in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<https://academicpersonnel.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1069/2020/02/UNC-Chapel-Hill-Tenure-Policies-and-Procedures.pdf>).
- C. The Faculty Code of University Government, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<https://facultygov.unc.edu/faculty-code/>).
- D. Affirmative Action Plan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<https://eoc.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/201/2015/05/UNC-2017-Federal-EO-Plan.docx.pdf>).
- E. Personnel Policies for Academic Personnel, Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost (<https://academicpersonnel.unc.edu/policies-and-procedures/faculty-appointments/>)

F. College of Arts & Sciences Chair's Manual (<https://casbo.web.unc.edu/chairs-manual/>)

G. Memorandum from the Dean on Peer Faculty Teaching Observations for Tenure, Promotion and Post-Tenure Review, August 21, 2012. (<https://casbo.web.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/14673/2017/08/Peer-Teaching-Memo-2012-08-21.pdf>)

H. Report of the UNC-Chapel Hill Taskforce on Promotion and Tenure Policies and Practices, April 6, 2020. (https://facultygov.unc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/261/2020/04/Promotion-Tenure-Task-Force-Report_draft_-2020-04-06.pdf)

This departmental document is supplemental to, and subject to, the policies found in the above publications. Each faculty member has the responsibility to become familiar with their provisions.

II. Standards

The Department, College and University continually aspire to enhance their academic stature. Such stature is achieved primarily through the continual recruitment, development, and retention of outstanding faculty.

The standards that this Department applies to the evaluation of candidates are qualitative and cannot be expressed quantitatively. Therefore, they inescapably entail subjective judgment. As a result, it is not possible to reduce the evaluation of academic personnel to a purely objective enumeration of expected accomplishments within a specific period of time.

The Department may recommend a candidate for promotion and/or permanent tenure before the expiration of his or her probationary term if the quality of the candidate's record meets the standards and makes a compelling case for an early recommendation. A candidate's prior record in a tenure track or equivalent position at another institution of higher education may form part of a compelling case for an early recommendation.

Prerequisite to the appointment or reappointment of any candidate is the continuing need by the Department, College and University for the services that he or she, as a scholar-teacher in a particular field, is qualified to carry out. An appointment of an individual to a tenure-track position is based on the belief that the appointment meets a continuing need of the Department. However, where this need is found not to exist, or has disappeared or may disappear, or where program change or curtailment of funding obliges the University to discontinue support, appointment or reappointment is precluded.

Quality research, teaching excellence and impactful service are important areas of evaluation of faculty by the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences. In addition to long-standing criteria for such evaluation, innovative faculty work in these areas should also be considered when germane. Thus, tenure and promotion guidelines must balance the need for precedent and consistency with openness to new approaches and ideas for which establishing criteria for evaluation may be difficult, at least at first. Candidates for promotion and their departments share the responsibility for effectively evaluating innovative contributions. Candidates should help articulate the nature and value of their new work. Departments should continually educate themselves on the changing landscape of the profession, and they should consider when to seek evaluations of the candidate's work that inform and can help explain

particular innovations. Some of the prominent areas in which innovation may occur include engagement, interdisciplinarity, and entrepreneurship.

As a public university, we recognize the importance of faculty engagement. Engagement may be embedded in one or more aspects of a faculty member's research, teaching, and service activities. Faculty engagement refers to scholarly, creative, pedagogical, and service activities directed toward persons and groups outside UNC Chapel Hill and outside the usual spheres of professional academic work. Such activities typically take the form of collaborative interactions, include partners outside the University, and seek to enhance the "public good" or "public life" of the state, nation, or wider world.

When present, engagement should be recognized as a significant component of a faculty member's professional achievements. Engagement may play a more prominent role at different phases of a faculty member's career, and it should be supported at any phase if it is consistent with our Department's practices and priorities. However, faculty whose work does not include engaged activities should not be penalized or denied tenure or promotion on those grounds.

Interdisciplinary work provides opportunities for creating knowledge in new and unanticipated ways, often representing cutting-edge scholarship and teaching. Since many challenges and problems require skills and perspectives from multiple academic and professional disciplines, evidence of innovative inter- and cross-disciplinary research, teaching, and service should therefore be valued in a candidate's promotion and tenure dossier.

Entrepreneurship provides opportunities for the translation of knowledge into products and services that are commercially valuable to the public and thereby to increase the impact of knowledge outside of typical scientific spheres. Entrepreneurship integrated with research may spawn additional research opportunities that further the creation of new knowledge. Entrepreneurship integrated with education can provide a fertile setting for experiential learning and valuable exposure to potential post-graduation professional opportunities. Entrepreneurship may expand opportunities for engagement and service, thereby extending the reach of knowledge for the public good. Evidence of entrepreneurship (e.g., patents, grants or contracts) and its integration with research, teaching, and service should therefore be valued in a candidate's promotion and tenure dossier.

The University is committed to being an inclusive and diverse institution and to creating a system of faculty advancement and recognition that makes it possible for all faculty members to be fairly assessed and cultivated in their careers. The promotion process should account for "invisible labor" that may be required of minority faculty in departmental, university, and professional settings and value work (research, creative, teaching, service, etc) with under-represented populations. Publications in smaller or niche journals that deal with diversity matters should be given serious consideration in faculty promotion and/or tenure reviews and documented appropriately (e.g., Chair's letter). Additional guidance is provided in reference H. above.

General Standards. The following standards will be employed in evaluations for reappointment, promotion, and tenure:

- a) A demonstrated commitment to, and achievement of, research excellence is required for consideration for tenure and/or promotions in rank.

- b) A demonstrated commitment to, and achievement of, teaching excellence is required for consideration of tenure decisions and/or promotions in rank, and while its presence without the other two general standards also being met will not bring tenure or promotion, its absence is sufficient to deny tenure or promotion.
- c) Service to the Department, University, community, state, nation and world, and to one's academic profession is a further, additional consideration in the overall assessment of a faculty colleague. Service is not a substitute for excellence in research and excellence in teaching.

A. Standards of Research

The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences expects its faculty to be actively involved throughout their careers in achieving scholarly research excellence. Scholarship is understood as the advancement of knowledge and understanding and consists primarily of original research. The central result of scholarship is publication. The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences requires such publication as an obvious way of extending knowledge and of sharing the fruits of scholarly thought and investigation with a wider audience that can be both critical and appreciative. The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences considers quality as well as quantity of publications.

The Department routinely attempts to provide the essential core materials that are needed to get a research program underway following an initial appointment. Thereafter, Department financial support is only minimal. It is expected that faculty members of the Department will make every effort to generate funds needed to support their research and graduate programs from external sources through individual or multi-investigator grants. The ability to succeed in peer-reviewed grant programs will be an important consideration in making judgments affecting advancement.

Engaged scholarship refers to research on projects that include collaborative interactions with partners outside the University and outside the usual spheres of professional academic work. To satisfy the criterion for engaged scholarship, the faculty member's work must meet rigorous standards. In our Department, the criteria for evaluating the quality of engaged scholarship include obtaining external competitive funding, publication of findings in peer-reviewed journals or books, and evaluations by experts in the field.

The research of faculty engaged in innovative interdisciplinary research or entrepreneurship shall be given formal consideration and due credit, although the overall quality and contribution of the interdisciplinary and entrepreneurial work should be measured through appropriate means against the University's well-established high standards. For faculty with interdisciplinary interests hired within the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences, the main criteria for review and judgment lie within, rather than outside, our discipline broadly defined. In the case of joint appointments, reviews must include multi-departmental evaluations. For faculty hired as joint appointees, the main criteria for review and judgment of a faculty member's scholarly work shall encompass work across the units of appointment and related interdisciplinary work, assessed by appropriate high standards. Evaluation of accomplishment in interdisciplinary research or entrepreneurship include patents, technology development, outside seminars, invited presentations at meetings, clear evidence of significant contributions to their field and evaluations by experts in the field.

B. Standards of Teaching

The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences expects and encourages teaching of the highest quality. Although it is not possible to enumerate here all criteria of highly effective teaching, such teachers prepare their courses with discrimination and skill. They responsibly formulate the objectives of the courses and use imaginative pedagogical methods to achieve their goals. Effective teachers engage their students, stimulate their interests, broaden their perspectives and improve their thinking. To the extent that it is possible, they also make their students active rather than passive participants in the learning process. Excellent teachers demand substantial accomplishment and high standards of work, grade all work fairly, and base what they teach on evidence and sound method. They are articulate, resourceful, and reflective. In addition, where appropriate, such teachers conscientiously provide advice and guidance to both graduate and undergraduate students on an individual basis, direct theses and dissertations, and serve on committees that critically examine and evaluate such research projects. In short, the Department expects colleagues to be generously involved in teaching and training.

Engaged teaching refers to pedagogical practices that typically take students outside the traditional classroom. Such teaching may include courses that help students engage with non-academic communities, participate in service learning programs, or interact with public schools and government policymakers. To satisfy the criterion for “engaged teaching” and for engaged teaching to be considered in evaluations for reappointment, promotion and tenure, the faculty member’s courses should include analytical and reflective components and carry academic credit. Such teaching should be evaluated by students, by academic peers, and also by individuals who participate in these courses from a position outside the University.

Evaluation of teaching excellence should also consider faculty contributions to different forms of interdisciplinary teaching. Such endeavors greatly enhance the intellectual life of the University and provide a sense of common purpose and community among students and faculty. All levels and forms of interdisciplinary teaching should therefore be considered, including: interdisciplinary teaching within one’s home unit; participation in team-taught, multidisciplinary courses that transcend the Department and unit boundaries; undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral mentoring; and involvement in cross-disciplinary learning experiences outside the University. As with all forms of teaching, rigorous standards of evaluation should be applied.

C. Standards of Service

A service assignment should be pursued diligently, imaginatively, and responsibly, with concern for deadlines and appropriate results. Conscientious and efficient performance combined with collegiality, tact, and resourcefulness bring credit to the individual and the Department and will be recognized.

Assistant and associate professors without permanent tenure are expected to undertake those service functions the Department Chair may assign. Although they should focus primarily on teaching and research, untenured members of the Department will be called upon to perform a number of service activities such as: work on departmental or appropriate University committees, and participation in external professional association activities, such as review of publications and/or grant proposals. Associate professors with tenure and professors may be expected to undertake a wider range of service functions.

Engaged service refers to activities that are informed by the faculty member's scholarly expertise and include interactions with groups and projects outside the professional and scholarly organizations of academia. In the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences, we value engaged service, such as activities seeking to translate the faculty member's knowledge and expertise into policy and capacity to better manage and preserve our natural and human systems for the public good. This service may include advisory service to national, state and local governmental agencies; contributions to the K-12 school system; public lectures; undergraduate research training, diversity training, outreach to college, universities, and media, and other avenues that utilize the candidate's scholarly capabilities for the public good. The value of engaged service in promotion and tenure decisions should be assessed based on its realized or potential impact on the public good.

Faculty may be involved in interdisciplinary service in one, two or more units, depending on the nature of their appointment(s) or interdisciplinary approach. In cases of interdisciplinary service, the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences, the other units involved and the faculty member will establish standards and expectations clarifying the extent of service expected from the faculty member for the Department and the other unit(s). These standards and expectations shall be reviewed, evaluated and, if necessary, modified on a regular basis. The same general standards of evaluation shall be employed for interdisciplinary service as for service within a single unit.

III. Criteria for Specific Personnel Actions

The projected needs and resources of the Department, the College and the University shall be considered in recommending initial appointments, reappointments, promotions to associate professor with tenure, and promotion to full professor.

A. Instructor with Special Provision

The candidate approved by the Department to be recommended for an appointment as an assistant professor but who, when approved, is still completing a doctoral dissertation, will be recommended for an appointment as instructor for one year with the special provision that upon conferral of the doctorate he or she will be reappointed at the rank of assistant professor, and with the further provision that the effective date of his or her appointment at the rank of assistant professor will be retroactive to the effective date of his or her current appointment as instructor, or to the July 1 or January 1 immediately preceding the date of conferral. Such an appointment will carry the title "instructor with special provision."

B. Assistant Professor

The rank of assistant professor denotes a tenure-track position, ordinarily with an initial appointment for four years, the possibility of reappointment for three additional years, and a review for the conferral of tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor.

1. Standards for initial appointment

Clear promise of excellence in teaching and scholarship and completion of all requirements for the doctorate or other terminal degree and the degree's conferral are required.

2. Reappointment for a second probationary term

The initial review and recommendation for reappointment occur by the end of the third year of the initial probationary appointment. For an assistant professor already serving in the Department, reappointment is based on evidence of: (a) a demonstrated commitment to, and promise of or achievement of, research excellence; (b) a demonstrated commitment to, and promise of or achievement of, teaching excellence; and (c) appropriate service to the Department and/or engagement for the public good.

C. Associate Professor

Initial appointment to a rank of associate professor may be with or without tenure. Promotion to associate professor always confers tenure. Except as otherwise provided under University policy, tenure is a permanent commitment by the Department, the College and the University. Recommendation for tenure requires a judgment not only about the past and present achievements of the candidate but also about his or her potential for future achievements. While emphasizing proven excellence in research and teaching, the Department remains very much concerned, in questions of tenure, that a person shows promise of continuing achievement in all three areas: research, teaching, and service. A recommendation for promotion and/or tenure by the Department Chair requires a careful assessment informed by outside references about the qualifications of the candidate and the professional judgment of the assembled full professors; the professional judgment of the tenured associate professors is also considered.

In evaluating past performance, present achievements, and promise for the future, the following factors will be considered:

- a) The candidate must have demonstrated achievement of research excellence, through scholarly contribution(s) of demonstrable value to Earth and/or marine and/or environmental sciences. The candidate must also have demonstrated commitment to continued research excellence. Research excellence is evidenced primarily by publication in peer-reviewed journals and books, an established record of external funding, impact on the field as measured by citations and external letters, and development of an active research and graduate research program. Other indicators of research excellence include collaborations, presentations at scientific meetings, awards, and patents.
- b) The candidate must have demonstrated commitment to teaching excellence and must have achieved excellence in one or more types of teaching. Commitment to, and achievement of, teaching excellence is demonstrated by factors such as the quality of student and peer reviews, teaching awards, recruitment of students, development of new courses, quality of graduate advising, and supervision of undergraduate research.
- c) The candidate's service to the Department, University, community, state, nation and world, and to his or her academic profession is a further, additional consideration in the overall assessment. The candidate must be recognized as a helpful and valued colleague. Service is seen in activities such as manuscript review, proposal review, serving on funding panels, committee work (Department, University, and professional), public outreach, chairing sessions at professional

meetings, presence in working groups, and leading field trips. Service is not a substitute for excellence in research and excellence in teaching.

The Department will decide whether to recommend tenure following an initial appointment as an associate professor on the basis of the criteria outlined above for promotion to associate professor. With written advance approval of the Dean, an associate professor appointed from outside the Department may be recommended for an initial appointment with tenure if the quality of the candidate's record meets the standards.

D. Full Professor

Appointment to the rank of full professor confers tenure. A candidate for full professor should have made significant contributions in the field beyond those expected of an associate professor with tenure.

Recommendation for promotion to the rank of full professor requires a judgment not only about the past and present achievements of the candidate but about his or her potential for future achievements. A recommendation for promotion to full professor by the Department Chair requires a careful assessment informed by outside references about the qualifications of the candidate and the professional judgment of the full professors.

In evaluating past performance, present achievements, and promise for the future, the following factors will be considered:

- a) The candidate must have a record of sustained research productivity, high quality publication and distinctive achievements to have gained significant recognition in the field nationally, and if appropriate, internationally. Other evidence of research excellence includes diversity and creativity of research.
- b) The candidate must have demonstrated commitment to, and achievement of, teaching excellence.
- c) The candidate must have a record of service that demonstrates the capacity for constructive contributions to the Department and the University; a similar demonstration of capacity for such contributions to the community, state, nation and world is also valued. Achieved excellence in engaged service may be an important determinant in promotion to full professor. Service is not a substitute for excellence in research or excellence in teaching.

E. Full Joint Tenure-Track and Tenured Appointments

In order to be recommended for a joint tenure-track or tenured appointment in the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences, a faculty member must meet the standards for the rank for which he or she is being considered and must simultaneously meet the standards for the same rank in another department, so that he or she may hold the same rank in both departments. A joint tenure-track or tenured appointment in the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences is an honor and not a right or extended as a courtesy. The projected needs and resources of the departments and the University shall be considered in initiating or approving joint tenure-track or tenured appointments. Policies pertaining to these appointments differ from those for appointments across departments or units in which the faculty member holds a tenure-track or tenured appointment in one of the departments or units and holds a fixed term (i.e., adjunct) appointment in another.

F. General Recruiting Procedures

The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences follows University and College recruiting policies and procedures. For further details, see the Provost's website and the College of Arts & Sciences Chair's Manual.

IV. The Role of Faculty in Graduate Research Training

As part of developing a vibrant research program, faculty are expected to recruit, advise, and mentor students. Effective supervision of graduate research training includes: (a) advising students with individual work plans tailored to their strengths/weakness, post-graduation goals, and work style; (b) mentoring students and positively modeling the role of a researcher in academia and the public sector; (c) meeting with students regularly to discuss their accomplishments and struggles, review drafts, and provide feedback; and (d) evaluating the student's progress towards his/her degree each semester.

V. Summary of Procedural Steps in Appointments, Reappointments and Promotion (not applicable for fixed-term appointments)

Policies identified here are supplemental to, and subject to, the policies found in the most recent versions of the publications listed in the Introduction.

Letters of recommendation. Outside letters of evaluation constitute an important part of the appointment, promotion and tenure packet. A minimum of four letters of evaluation is required.

For appointments of assistant professors and instructors with special provision, these letters should be preferably from outside the institution, and also preferably from research universities with very high research activity (RU/VH institutions). They may include letters from mentors and other individuals more closely connected to the candidate.

In the case of promotion and tenure packets, it is required that all four of the outside letters of evaluation be from outside the institution, and that all be from individuals independent of the candidate. Two of the four letters must be from a list of names provided by the candidate and two of the four from individuals selected by the Department Chair. Ideally, all of the letters should come from individuals at research universities with very high research activity (RU/VH institutions). If, in the Chair's view, the most appropriate reviewer is from a university or other institution that is not a research university with very high research activity (RU/VH institutions), the Chair's letter should provide an explanation for the choice of reviewer. The goal is to obtain a letter from the person who will give the most discriminating review and unbiased assessment of the individual's national and international reputation. Therefore, the request from the Department Chair to prospective writers of outside letters of evaluation should be phrased neutrally and should not solicit an affirmative response or recommendation.

The letters may not be from individuals who have worked directly with the candidate, e.g., as a collaborator, mentor, previous coworker, or former dissertation chair, but may be from individuals

who know the candidate through professional interactions, e.g., having reviewed the candidate's publications or served on review committees together.

In addition to the minimum four required independent letters, any number of additional letters from any responsible source may also be submitted. These may be from individuals within the institution with whom the candidate has collaborated or from former colleagues, collaborators, mentors, or other individuals connected with the candidate.

All letters of evaluation that are received must be made an official part of any appointment, promotion, and tenure package and must be part of the evaluation process of the candidate under consideration. In the appointment/promotion packet, each outside letter should have a designation in its upper right-hand corner indicating whether the writer of the letter was suggested by the candidate or was chosen by the Department Chair.

The dossier. The Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences will employ the guide provided by the Appointments, Promotion and Tenure Committee of the University in completing the candidate's dossier for review for faculty reappointments, promotions and tenure.

Faculty are encouraged to include a section in their research, teaching and/or service statements on diversity and inclusion that presents a narrative about how the work of the faculty member has affected issues of diversity. In this narrative, faculty members could review their scholarship, creative endeavors, teaching, engagement and service that relates to inclusion and diversity.

Notification. Untenured assistant and associate professors should be notified in writing at least three months prior to the start of the scheduled review. Tenured associate professors should be notified in writing at least six months prior to the start of the scheduled review because that scheduled review also constitutes the University's post tenure review which requires six months' notice. The notification should include the requirements for the dossier the faculty member must submit for evaluation.

Timing of review. Except as expressly limited, promotions in rank may be made at any time during a faculty member's employment.

Review and consultation. Proceedings for promotion to associate professor with tenure or to full professor are initiated by recommendation of the Department Chair "after consultation with the assembled full professors of that department" (Trustees' Policies and Regulations Governing Academic Tenure in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill). Any department charged with evaluating a candidate and making a recommendation regarding reappointment of an assistant professor, conferral of tenure and promotion to associate professor or promotion to full professor may utilize an *ad hoc* or special committee to review the candidate and present a report to the assembled voting faculty. If this committee prepares a written evaluation of the candidate, that report must be included in the candidate's dossier. The Department's assembled voting faculty must include at least four full professors. If a department has fewer than four full professors, a standing advisory committee including additional full professors shall be named by the Dean of the College in consultation with the Chair to advise the Chair in personnel matters.

In the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences, the Department Chair appoints a review committee of at least three faculty to conduct the initial review for reappointment, promotion, and the granting of tenure. A committee of more than three faculty may be appointed at the Chair's

discretion. The review committee is drawn from members of the Department, but may include members from other departments (e.g., a department in which the candidate holds a joint appointment) and composition must be rank-appropriate to the case being considered. At the Chair's discretion, additional faculty members may be appointed to the review committee. The candidate will be notified of the make-up of the Department personnel review committee at the time he or she is informed in writing of the pending review.

The departmental vote must be recorded and reported by rank, and must list the number of votes in support and opposition, as well as any abstentions. Any opposition votes or abstentions must be accompanied by an explanation from the faculty member as to their decision. This information should be reported in the chair's letter to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. No faculty member may vote on the question of reappointment, tenure and/or promotion for another faculty member of the same or higher rank. Tenured associate professors, therefore, may not vote for conferral of tenure or promotion for another associate professor.

A. Assistant Professor

Tenure Track Assistant Professors (Third-Year Reviews). Initial appointment to the rank of assistant professor is for a probationary term of four years. No less than 12 months before the end of this term, the assistant professor must be notified in writing whether he or she will be recommended for a second probationary term of three years or not reappointed.

The Department's assembled voting faculty shall review the assistant professor's scholarship, teaching, and service. Outside letters of evaluation are not required for reappointment. It is a University requirement that the Chair consult the "assembled full professors" of the unit before acting upon a recommendation. In the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences, that discussion is followed by a vote of the assembled full professors and tenured associate professors regarding the proposed reappointment. The faculty's vote is advisory to the Chair, who either recommends reappointment or decides against reappointment.

If the Chair decides against reappointment at the end of the initial probationary term, the assistant professor shall be notified in writing of the Chair's decision no less than 12 months before his or her current term ends. A faculty member has the right to an administrative conference with the Chair and, if necessary, with the Dean of the College, along with such other appeal rights as are afforded under the "Trustee Policies and Regulations Governing Academic Tenure in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill."

Review for Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure

Assistant professors are reviewed during their sixth year for promotion to associate professor with tenure, non-reappointment, or (under exceptional circumstances) reappointment at the rank of assistant professor with permanent tenure.

If the assistant professor receives permanent tenure at that same rank, he or she must be reviewed every five years to meet the post-tenure review requirement of the University, and is eligible to be reviewed for promotion on the same schedule.

The Department's assembled voting faculty shall review the assistant professor's scholarship, teaching, and service. Outside letters of evaluation are required for promotion to associate professor

with tenure. It is a University requirement that the “assembled full professors” of the unit meet to discuss and vote upon a recommendation. In the Department of Earth, Marine and Environmental Sciences, that discussion is followed by a vote of the assembled full professors and tenured associate professors regarding the proposed promotion to associate professor with tenure. The faculty’s vote is advisory to the Chair, who either recommends promotion to associate professor with tenure or decides against reappointment.

If the Chair decides against reappointment at the end of the second probationary term, the assistant professor shall be notified in writing of the Chair’s decision no less than 12 months before his or her current term ends. A faculty member has the right to an administrative conference with the Chair and, if necessary, with the Dean of the College, along with such other appeal rights as are afforded under the “Trustee Policies and Regulations Governing Academic Tenure in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.”

B. Associate Professor, Full Professor, and Post-Tenure Review

Untenured Associate Professor. Initial appointment to the rank of untenured associate professor is for the probationary term of five years. An untenured associate professor is reviewed no later than the fourth year of this probationary term since no less than 12 months before the end of this term, the associate professor must be notified in writing whether he or she will be reappointed with tenure, promoted to professor, or recommended for non-reappointment.

The Department’s assembled voting faculty shall review the untenured associate professor’s scholarship, teaching, and service. Outside letters of evaluation are required for appointment as an associate professor with tenure, or for an appointment as full professor, which confers tenure. It is a University requirement that the Chair consult with the “assembled full professors” of the unit before acting upon a recommendation. The faculty’s vote is advisory to the Chair, who either recommends tenure (and, if also being considered, promotion to full professor) or decides against tenure (and, if also being considered, promotion to full professor).

Full Professor. An associate professor who has completed five years and has been reappointed at the same rank with tenure must be reviewed every five years to meet the post-tenure review requirement of the University, and is eligible to be reviewed for possible promotion to full professor on the same schedule. Since the University’s Tenure Regulations were revised, effective July 1, 2004, it has been possible for reviews for promotion to full professor and post-tenure reviews for tenured associate professors to take place simultaneously.

Every five years, associate professors with tenure must have an internal review that constitutes their required post-tenure review. If the faculty member wishes to be considered for promotion to full professor at that time, then recommendation letters from outside the institution are solicited as part of that review. If the faculty member does not wish to be reviewed for possible promotion at that time, only the internal review is carried out.

The Department’s assembled voting faculty shall review the tenured associate professor’s scholarship, teaching, and service. Outside letters of evaluation are required for promotion to full professor. It is a University requirement that the Chair consult with the “assembled full professors” of the unit before acting upon a recommendation. The faculty’s vote is advisory to the Chair, who either recommends promotion to full professor or decides against promotion.

Out of cycle reviews. If a tenured associate professor, with the concurrence of the Department, wishes to be considered for review for early promotion before his/her scheduled five-year review, an out-of-cycle review may take place. If the faculty member requests a full out-of-cycle review and the Department full professors believe that not enough has been done to warrant consideration for promotion, the Chair has the right to recommend denying the request on the advice of the full professors. The Chair must give the reasons for recommending denial and communicate these reasons to the faculty member in writing.

Post-Tenure Review. Since 1997, post-tenure review has been mandated by UNC General Administration on orders from the Board of Governors in response to a directive of the NC General Assembly that a system of periodic review of the performance of tenured faculty be implemented. Our Department has a separate set of post-tenure review policies. Post-tenure review applies to all tenured faculty, except as otherwise specified by University or College policy with regard to its timing for faculty who are department chairs, senior associate deans, and deans.

C. Untenured Faculty Annual Review

The Department Chair must perform evaluations of untenured assistant and associate professors every year. These evaluations are especially important for setting goals, clarifying expectations, and providing mentoring. After meeting with the untenured faculty member, the Chair must write a report of the evaluation, provide a copy to the faculty member in question, and place one in his or her personnel file.

The evaluation should provide a clear assessment of the faculty member's work that year in research, teaching and service. It should be clear about goals on which the untenured professor and the Chair agree. It should not explicitly comment on or venture a prediction regarding any later decision to grant tenure to the faculty member. On the contrary, the evaluation should include a disclaimer: "This evaluation is not an indication of the likelihood of a positive or negative recommendation regarding tenure but rather summarizes and assesses the activities in which you have been engaged for the past year." The Dean's Office should be notified when these reviews are completed.

Part II. Policies on Fixed-Term Faculty

Instructions regarding completion of this Part II will be provided in a separate document.