



FACULTY HANDBOOK

Effective July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

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INTRODUCTION

The Faculty Handbook is the official statement of University of Northern Iowa (University or UNI) policy governing the rights and responsibilities of faculty. The Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost) is responsible for maintaining the Faculty Handbook and posting the Handbook on its website.

This Handbook is updated annually by the Provost's Office following consultation with the Faculty Handbook Committee (FHC). The FHC is a standing, joint committee of six administrators and six faculty. The six administrators include the Associate Provost for Faculty and five others appointed by the Provost. The six faculty include the Chair of the Faculty, the Chair of the Faculty Senate, the President of United Faculty, and three additional faculty appointed by Faculty Leadership. Membership on the subcommittees should be composed of an equal number of administrative and faculty representatives. The FHC shall be chaired by the Associate Provost for Faculty. Administrative representatives (excluding the chair) and faculty representatives (excluding faculty leadership) will serve rotating, three-year terms. Terms may be renewed. Appointments by the Provost and Faculty Leadership should take place by May 15 of each year to take effect July 1.

The FHC will convene on a regular basis to discuss issues that are of mutual interest to faculty and administrators. Faculty or administrators wishing to propose changes to the Faculty Handbook may submit proposed changes, through the Provost website (<https://provost.uni.edu/faculty-handbook-updates>), to the FHC. The FHC will typically consider proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook in the academic year in which such changes are proposed. If a majority of the entire FHC votes to adopt a proposed change to the Handbook, the FHC will consult with the Faculty Senate and Faculty Leadership before presenting to the Provost any recommended changes to the Handbook. The FHC's recommendations will include the vote of the committee and may include dissenting opinion(s). The Provost shall either accept or reject the recommendations of the FHC. If the Provost rejects the recommendations, the Provost will provide to the FHC written reasons for the rejection. Subject to limited exceptions, any changes to the Faculty Handbook will not take effect until the beginning of the following academic year.

In certain circumstances, such as adverse or unexpected budget conditions, it may be necessary for the university to make a temporary exception to certain provisions of the Faculty Handbook. In those circumstances, the Provost will consult with Faculty Leadership and the FHC as practicable before making any temporary deviation from the Handbook. A final decision about any such temporary deviation will be reported to Faculty Leadership, the FHC, and any affected Faculty. In addition, the Provost may update the Handbook. Before making any substantive changes, the Provost will consult with the FHC.

This Handbook supersedes all prior UNI handbooks that are inconsistent with its current provisions. This Handbook does not create a contract of employment between UNI and its employees. To the extent that any provision of this Handbook conflicts with University or Board of Regents, State of Iowa ("Board") policy, any applicable collective bargaining agreement, or applicable state or federal law, such provision shall be void.

The Faculty Handbook supports the University of Northern Iowa Vision, Mission, and Values (see page 2).

VISION, MISSION, and STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2028

Create. Empower. Innovate.

Vision: We serve the public good through equitable and inclusive excellence in teaching and learning, scholarship, and service.

Mission: The University of Northern Iowa creates, empowers, and innovates to enrich Iowa and beyond.

Our Values

Academic Freedom: The freedom of inquiry and expression in teaching and learning, scholarship, and service.

Access: An inclusive educational environment that is supportive, equitable, and affordable.

Integrity: A commitment to accountability, responsibility, and the highest ethical standards are integrated into all university practices.

Collaboration: A commitment to work together to achieve our shared vision, mission and goals, and to develop and improve institutional policies, programs, and processes.

Community: A caring, safe, and diverse community characterized by appreciation, respect, and a sense of belonging.

Equity: The cultivation and nurturing of a diverse, just, and inclusive community, culture, and environment.

Empowerment: Active engagement in transformative, innovative and lifelong learning in service to the public good.

Excellence: A commitment to pursuing the highest levels of achievement in teaching and learning, scholarship and service.

Sustainability: A resilient community and campus that balances innovation and stewardship, is economically sound, environmentally responsible, and socially just.

CHAPTER ONE: FACULTY GOVERNANCE

The Faculty at the University of Northern Iowa are represented by three governing agents: the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Chair, and United Faculty. All three represent the faculty as a whole and play a central role in the shared governance of the university. All three share responsibility for the protection of academic freedom, the fair and equitable application of policy, the advancement of the university's mission, and the promotion of faculty success.

University Faculty Senate

"The principal representative agency of the University faculty shall be the University Faculty Senate, which shall have the power to act for the faculty on all matters within its jurisdiction." Constitution of the Faculty, Article V, 3.0. The Senate is primarily responsible for issues of educational policy and curriculum. The province of the Faculty Senate is outlined in the Senate By-Laws: <https://senate.uni.edu/>.

Faculty Chair

The Chair acts as spokesperson for the established policies and positions of the faculty to officers of the administration, to the press, to student leadership representatives, and consistent with Board policies and regulations to the Board of Regents. Details are found in the Faculty Constitution, Article II: <https://senate.uni.edu/>.

United Faculty

United Faculty is the certified, exclusive, and sole collective bargaining representative for the faculty pursuant to the relevant Public Employee Relations Board ("PERB") orders. It is primarily responsible for issues of salaries, working conditions, and other labor relations matters. Details of the current collective bargaining agreement and other faculty resources are available at: <https://ufaculty.uni.edu/>.

Faculty Leadership

For purposes of this Handbook, "Faculty Leadership" shall refer to the Faculty Senate Chairperson, the Chair of the Faculty, and the President of United Faculty.

CHAPTER TWO: FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Section 2.0 Appointments

General terms and conditions of appointments shall be stated in writing. In addition to the letter of offer, all appointments are governed by University policies.

Subdivision 2.0a Non-Discrimination

Evaluation of an individual with respect to appointment to the faculty is made without reference to age, national origin, race, color, religion, creed, political affiliation, veteran/military status, disability, pregnancy, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other status protected by applicable federal or state law.

Subdivision 2.0b Qualifications

For all appointments to the faculty, the primary standard is that the candidate to be appointed is the candidate best qualified for the position among those available for it.

Subdivision 2.0c Terminal Degree

It is expected that faculty members will have at the time of appointment or within a reasonable period thereafter, the terminal degree appropriate to their disciplines and positions, except as noted below in Paragraph 2.0c.3. Specifically:

Paragraph 2.0c.1

For initial appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor, candidates will normally possess the appropriate terminal degree and will show experience of or strong potential for excellence in teaching, productive research/scholarship/creative achievement, and professional service.

Paragraph 2.0c.2

For initial appointment at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor, candidates will have the appropriate terminal degree and will have substantial experience demonstrating excellent teaching, productive research/scholarship/creative achievement, and professional service. Initial appointments at the senior ranks are based on the same criteria as promotion to those ranks.

Paragraph 2.0c.3

Although in most academic disciplines and for most faculty positions the appropriate terminal degree is the doctorate, the University recognizes that in some disciplines and for some positions other degrees are customarily regarded as the highest normally appropriate to scholars in those areas. The University also recognizes that in exceptional instances there can be experience and/or training other than formal degree work that qualify a faculty member or candidate as teacher and scholar as effectively as a formal degree program as long as such experience and/or training satisfies the requirements of the Higher Learning Commission. Such instances will be based on a considerable record of achievement, such as a substantial record of published research in professional journals. For those disciplines or positions where the appropriate terminal degree is normally not the doctorate, the degree requirement, if any, will be stated in established policies initiated by the department affected and agreed to by the college dean and the Provost. In the absence of any established policy to the contrary, the terminal degree for all disciplines and positions is the doctorate.

Section 2.1 Termination

Temporary, term (1-4), renewable term, clinical, probationary, and tenured faculty members may be terminated, only during an applicable term, for just cause.

Section 2.2 Temporary (Adjunct) Appointments

A temporary (adjunct) appointment runs for a precisely stipulated short term, usually one year or less. It terminates automatically at the expiration of the stipulated term. It carries no implications of renewal or continuation beyond the stipulated term. Adjuncts hold the rank of Assistant Adjunct Professor, Associate Adjunct Professor, or Senior Adjunct Professor.

Subdivision 2.2a

When allocating courses within a department among adjunct faculty members, seniority (defined as years of service to the University) shall be considered. In addition, reasonable efforts shall be made to maintain half-time or greater status for adjunct faculty members who have already taught continuously for six consecutive semesters or more at half-time or greater status.

Subdivision 2.2b

An adjunct faculty member's course allocation shall be subject to performance evaluations and other extenuating circumstances including, but not limited to, budget and enrollment, when courses are allocated within a department.

Subdivision 2.2c

An adjunct faculty member may file a faculty petition relating to this section pursuant to [Chapter 11](#) of this Faculty Handbook. However, the decision of the Provost pursuant to [Chapter 11](#) shall be final.

Section 2.3 Probationary Appointments**Subdivision 2.3a**

A probationary appointment, like a temporary appointment, runs for a stipulated short term, usually one year. Unlike a temporary appointment, however, it carries the implication that, if the appointee's services are judged by the University to be satisfactory, the appointment will be renewed year after year until, normally, a total of six years of probationary service shall have been accumulated; however, the University may offer reappointment for a seventh probationary year. The tenure standards for the seventh year will be the same as during the sixth year.

Subdivision 2.3b

A probationary appointment may be terminated at the end of any term, provided that written notice of the intention to terminate has been given by the University to the probationer in good time. Specifically: if the appointment is to be terminated at the end of the first year, notice shall be given by March 1; if at the end of the second year, by December 15; if at the end of any later probationary year, twelve months in advance.

Subdivision 2.3c

The probationary period provides the opportunity to meet the requirements for tenure.

Subdivision 2.3d

By March 1 of every year, every faculty member on a probationary appointment shall receive official written evaluation of their work to date.

Subdivision 2.3e

Continuance of a probationary appointment is made upon a recommendation of the Professional Assessment Committee (PAC), department head, and dean. In the event the recommendation of the department head in a continuance of a probationary faculty member is different from that of the PAC, the department head shall provide the PAC with the department head's written rationale and recommendation at the same time the department head's rationale and recommendation is forwarded to the dean. In the event the recommendation of the dean in a continuance of a faculty member is different from that of a PAC, the dean shall provide the department head and PAC with the dean's written rationale and recommendation at the same time as the dean's recommendation is forwarded to the Provost. In the event that the Provost's decision regarding continuance is different from that of the PAC, the Provost will provide the dean, department head, and PAC with a written rationale for that decision by March 1 as provided in Subdivision 2.3d. Nothing herein shall diminish the confidentiality of the faculty member's file. The final responsibility for a decision rests with the appropriate academic officers. The deans and Provost have a responsibility to ensure that recommendations for continuance or termination of probationary faculty reflect high University standards, while acknowledging the diversity of missions and tasks within the various colleges and programs of the University.

Subdivision 2.3f

If a faculty member's appointment begins after the first day of classes, the six-year probationary period will begin the following fall semester.

Section 2.4 Term (1-4) and Renewable Term Appointments**Subdivision 2.4a Titles and Ranks for Term (1-4) and Renewable Term Faculty****Paragraph 2.4a.1 Instructional Faculty**

Instructional faculty contribute predominantly to the teaching mission of the University and also complete service (or service and scholarship). They are distinguished individuals whose disciplinary education, expertise, and experience qualifies them to teach, advise students, contribute to the development of curricula, or engage in other pedagogical activities related to their expertise. Instructional faculty hold the rank of Assistant Professor of Instruction, Associate Professor of Instruction, or Professor of Instruction.

Paragraph 2.4a.2 Clinical Faculty

Clinical faculty contribute to the service, and/or teaching, and/or outreach missions of the University. The clinical faculty designation is used for positions that require clinical teaching and/or clinical supervision and/or clinical direction. Clinical faculty hold the rank of Clinical Assistant Professor, Clinical Associate Professor, or Clinical Professor.

Paragraph 2.4a.3 Practitioner Faculty

Practitioner Faculty are highly experienced individuals in a relevant field of professional practice who can provide effective, practice-oriented instruction and contribute to the teaching, service, and outreach missions of the University. Practitioner Faculty hold the rank of Assistant Professor of Practice, Associate Professor of Practice, and Professor of Practice.

Subdivision 2.4b Term (1-4) Appointments

A term (1-4) appointment is a multiple-year temporary appointment, i.e., one, two, three, or four years, which expires as specified by the letter of appointment. After expiration of the contracted term, a position may be renewed for a new term (1-4 years) through a recommendation from the department head and approval by the dean and Provost. Should continuance be warranted, as budget allows, faculty shall be notified in writing of the length of any new term (1-4) appointment in an offer letter issued by March 1 of the final year of the contracted appointment. There is no guarantee of continuance and any term (1-4) appointment may end according to the contracted agreement. Term (1-4) faculty are not eligible for Tenure.

Subdivision 2.4c Renewable Term Appointments

Renewable term faculty hold faculty positions through which they contribute to the service or teaching missions of the University.

Paragraph 2.4c.1 Terms of Appointment of Renewable Term Faculty**Subparagraph 2.4c.1a**

Candidate must have earned a terminal degree in the field or be recognized as having expertise by the search committee.

Subparagraph 2.4c.1b

Initial appointment is for a minimum of two years. The initial appointment will be made on the basis of a department/school search process consistent with searches for tenure track positions. The first two years of service are considered "probationary." Thereafter, reappointment will be for one year at a time, following assessment and evaluation procedures outlined in [Chapter 3](#) of this Faculty Handbook, that conclude with a satisfactory performance evaluation.

Paragraph 2.4c.2 Transfers

Any individual wishing to move from a tenure-track faculty line or a P&S staff line to a renewable term faculty position must apply for a vacant position for which recruitment has

been authorized. A renewable faculty member wishing to move to a tenure-track faculty or P&S line must apply for a vacant position for which recruitment has been authorized.

Paragraph 2.4c.3 Responsibilities and Rights of Renewable Term Faculty

The standard expectation for a renewable term faculty is that teaching is the predominant activity. The position does not have a research component or expectation of research accomplishment, although those activities may be present in some cases.

Paragraph 2.4c.4 Notice of Non-Reappointment

A renewable term appointment can be terminated at the end of any term, provided that written notice has been given by the University by March 1 of that year. In the event that a renewable term faculty member has been employed for more than two years in such appointment, upon notice of non-renewal the faculty member shall be entitled to remain employed for one additional academic year.

Paragraph 2.4c.5 Limitation

No more than 8% of the FTE faculty in any one college can be renewable term unless an exception is made by mutual agreement between faculty members of the Faculty Petition Committee and the Provost. The Provost will report the number of faculty hired pursuant to this section, the percentage those faculty represent of the total FTE faculty by college and will verify the use of an appropriate search process to the Faculty Petition Committee and the appropriate college faculty senate(s) twice per year.

Section 2.5 Tenured Appointments

Tenured faculty hold faculty positions through which they contribute to the teaching, scholarship¹, and service missions of the University and hold the rank of Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor, with a small number of faculty who were previously granted tenure with the rank of Instructor (i.e., those who previously taught at Price Laboratory School). Having successfully earned tenure grants faculty an appointment that can be terminated only for just cause or extraordinary circumstances such as financial exigency or program closure. Tenured faculty are evaluated annually under [Section 3.16](#) and may seek promotion under [Section 3.15](#). Tenure safeguards academic freedom and serves the public interest for free inquiry, free expression, open dissent, and the advancement of knowledge.

Section 2.6 Emeritus Status

See university Policies and Procedures, [Policy 4.21](#) Emeritus Status.

¹ Hereafter "Scholarship" refers to research, creative activity, and other forms of academic scholarly activity.

CHAPTER THREE: EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Section 3.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Chapter is to define the principles and expectations for evaluating faculty members at the University of Northern Iowa. UNI's Comprehensive Faculty Evaluation System recognizes and rewards faculty excellence across all stages of a faculty career, while protecting academic freedom, due process, tenure, and shared governance in alignment with the [1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure](https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure).²

Faculty evaluation supports professional growth, improvement, and accountability in teaching or librarianship, scholarship, and service. Department heads, in consultation with Professional Assessment Committees (PACs), are responsible for conducting evaluations in accordance with University and departmental standards.

This Chapter establishes the university-level evaluation processes and timelines, as well as the expectations for departmental standards and PAC operations. Departmental standards and PAC procedures must align with the provisions of this Chapter and be reviewed annually in accordance with the University's evaluation calendar (see [Table 3.3](#)).

Section 3.1 Dimensions of Evaluation

Faculty are evaluated in three areas:

1. Teaching or Librarianship
2. Scholarship (including research and creative activities)
3. Service

Faculty work may contribute to more than one area and should be evaluated accordingly. Definitions for teaching, scholarship, and service are detailed in [Chapter 4: Faculty Portfolios](#).

Subdivision 3.1a Teaching or Librarianship

Teaching or librarianship is the primary responsibility of faculty. Excellence in this area must be established before scholarship or service can be favorably evaluated. Faculty teaching evolves as faculty continually refine and develop their teaching. Faculty are expected to:

- Provide high-quality instruction.
- Foster critical thinking and disciplinary knowledge.
- Align teaching with curricular needs and program goals.
- Engage in continuous improvement of pedagogy.
- Ground teaching in relevant scholarship.

Subdivision 3.1b Scholarship

Scholarship is a central component of faculty work, contributing to knowledge creation, artistic expression, civic life, and community impact. It is evaluated through peer review, which confirms quality, significance, and relevance.

UNI recognizes the following as legitimate forms of scholarship (see [Section 4.3](#) for definitions):

- Scholarship of Discovery
- Scholarship of Integration
- Scholarship of Application

UNI recognizes all forms of peer review for tenured faculty. In addition to traditional peer review, departments may include other forms of peer in their Departmental Standards and Criteria Document (see [Paragraph 3.8a.1](#)).

² <https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure>

Subdivision 3.1c Service

Service is an essential component of every faculty portfolio and should be fulfilled equitably among faculty according to their assigned portfolios. Faculty are expected to participate in service at multiple levels — department, college, university, profession, and community — and to contribute their disciplinary expertise to shared governance and civic engagement.

Subdivision 3.1d Weighting of Teaching, Scholarship, and Service

Faculty performance is evaluated according to the weighting assigned in their current approved portfolio (see [Section 4.7a](#) Faculty Portfolio Summary Table). Faculty may demonstrate varying levels of achievement across the three areas.

Department heads and deans determine portfolio weighting in consultation with the faculty member and in accordance with University policy. The assigned weighting must be reflected in the evaluation file and confirm annually.

Section 3.2 Departmental Standards and Criteria Document

Each department must maintain a clear and consistent Departmental Standards and Criteria Document that defines expectations for faculty evaluation, promotion, and tenure. Departmental criteria must align with the University Guiding Standards ([Section 3.12](#)). All probationary and tenured faculty, along with the PAC and the department head, share responsibility for developing and maintaining these standards. Adjunct, term (1–4), and renewable term faculty must be consulted regarding criteria relevant to their roles. Departments are required to review their standards and criteria annually during the spring semester.

Departments must adhere to the annual university timeline ([Table 3.3](#)) for preparing draft and final versions of the document. Approval from the PAC Chair, Department Head, Dean (in consultation with the CRC), and the Provost's Office is required prior to implementation. Following Provost approval, the Department Head must distribute the final document to faculty before July 1 each year.

Subdivision 3.2a Departmental Standards & Criteria Document Components

- Operationalized criteria for all levels of review (i.e., annual, continuation, promotion, tenure, post-tenure).
- Specific definitions for “Meets Expectations,” “Exceeds Expectations,” and “Needs Improvement,” organized by rank and portfolio.
- Required materials to demonstrate teaching effectiveness and the artifacts required in scholarship and service.
- Expectations for probationary faculty in discovery scholarship and a statement of whether integration or application scholarship will be recognized for promotion and tenure.

Subdivision 3.2b University-Level Procedures for Development, Review, Approval, and Distribution

The Department Head and PAC Chair co-chair the process for creating, reviewing, and revising the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. All probationary and tenured faculty participate in this work, and adjunct, term (1–4), and renewable term faculty are consulted on standards relevant to their appointments. For a description of the various faculty ranks, see [Chapter 2](#).

Paragraph 3.2b.1 Annual Document Review

Each spring, departments undertake a full review of their standards and criteria. Following the timeline outlined in [Table 3.3](#), the department prepares a draft document and submits it for discussion at the Spring College Review Committee (CRC) meeting. After receiving CRC feedback, the department finalizes the document and secures signatures from the PAC Chair, Department Head, and Dean. If revisions were made from the prior year, a second version with changes clearly highlighted must accompany the signed document.

The Dean's Office forwards all final departmental documents to the Provost's Office by the required deadline. After the Provost's Office approves the document, the Department Head distributes the finalized standards to all faculty in the department so that the updated criteria may take effect on July 1st.

Paragraph 3.2b.2 MOU Option

If substantive revisions occur that affect a probationary faculty member, the faculty member may request an MOU no later than May 1 documenting the application of the new or prior standards. The MOU must be approved by the PAC Chair, Department Head, and Dean and placed in the Faculty Evaluation File.

Paragraph 3.2b.3 Template

Departments may refer to the template in Appendix A when drafting or updating their document. When collaborative difficulties arise or when assistance is needed in aligning departmental criteria with university standards, departments may seek support from their Dean, the Associate Provost for Faculty, the CRC, or the Faculty Handbook Committee.

Paragraph 3.2b.4 Failure to Develop Departmental Standards and Criteria

If the Dean, Provost, or designee rejects a departmental document, they will provide written instructions for necessary revisions. When a department fails to develop an approved document, the Dean must convene the CRC to resolve the issue. If this does not lead to resolution, the Dean, CRC, and departmental representatives must develop an action plan. Until an approved document is finalized, the University Guiding Standards serve as the department's default standards.

Section 3.3 Departmental Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) Procedures Document

Each Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) must maintain an annual Professional Assessment Committee Procedures document that outlines committee procedures beyond those specified in this Handbook. These procedures must be consistent with all provisions of the Handbook and must define how the PAC organizes itself, conducts its work, schedules its meetings, and completes its evaluative responsibilities.

PACs must use their department's Departmental Standards and Criteria Document as the foundational resource for evaluating faculty performance.

PACs are required to prepare and submit their document according to the university-wide timeline ([Table 3.3](#)). Approval from the PAC Chair, Department Head, Dean (in consultation with the CRC), and the Provost's Office is required before implementation. Once approved, the document must be distributed to all departmental faculty prior to its effective date of July 1.

Subdivision 3.3a University-Level Procedures for Drafting, Reviewing, Approving, and Distributing the Document

Each year, the PAC drafts revisions to the Professional Assessment Committee Procedures document in alignment with the timeline specified in [Table 3.3](#). Using the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document as a guide, the PAC prepares a draft for discussion during the Spring College Review Committee (CRC) meeting.

Paragraph 3.3a.1 Annual Document Review

After receiving CRC feedback, the PAC finalizes the document. Title pages must be signed by the PAC Chair, Department Head, and Dean (in consultation with the CRC). If changes were made from the previous year, a version showing clearly highlighted revisions must accompany the final signed copy.

The Dean's Office sends the completed document—revised or unchanged—to the Provost's Office by the required deadline. Upon approval from the Provost's Office, the Department Head distributes the finalized procedures to all department faculty before the July 1 implementation date.

Paragraph 3.3a.2 Template

A standard template for developing the Professional Assessment Committee Procedures document is provided in [Appendix B](#). PACs should use the template provided in Appendix B when drafting or updating their procedures.

Paragraph 3.3a.3 Failure to Develop PAC Procedures

If a PAC fails to develop an approved document—or if its procedures contradict the Faculty Handbook, university policy, or law—the PAC must follow the same corrective process described in [Paragraph 3.2b.4](#). Until resolution is achieved, the PAC must default to the University Guiding Standards and Handbook requirements.

Section 3.4 Roles

Subdivision 3.4a Faculty Member Being Evaluated

Faculty members are responsible for adhering to the evaluation policies, guidelines, and timetables established in this handbook and in any department-specific procedures. They are accountable for providing evidence of excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service. Files should be organized, complete, and include evidence of teaching, scholarship, and service excellence.

Faculty members seeking promotion and/or tenure must notify the department head and PAC chair by April 30 prior to the fall evaluation. Materials submitted should align with assigned portfolios and include documentation described in [Sections 3.6-3.10](#).

Subdivision 3.4b Professional Assessment Committee (PAC)

PACs are responsible for conducting reviews of faculty performance in accordance with university and departmental standards. Reviews are conducted as outlined in [Table 3.2](#) and follow the procedures detailed in [Section 3.14](#) Review by PAC.

Each academic department must maintain a Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) to conduct independent reviews of faculty performance in teaching, scholarship, and service. The PAC serves as an advisory body that provides recommendations to the department head. Reviews are based on the department's Standards and Criteria Document and conducted independently of administrative influence.

Paragraph 3.4b.1 PAC Membership

The PAC consists of all tenured members of the department. Department heads or administrators must not serve on the PAC. Candidates under review are excluded from participation in their own evaluation. All tenured faculty members are expected to serve on the PAC, unless released by the department head in consultation with the PAC chair (including pursuant to [Section 3.5](#) Conflicts of Interest).

Term (1–4) and renewable term faculty who have been promoted to Associate Instructor or Senior Instructor may serve on PACs to review faculty of lower rank within their employment classification.

A PAC must include at least three members. If membership falls below this number, additional tenured faculty from another department may be invited.

When specialized expertise is required, the PAC may invite additional qualified faculty from other departments. Faculty on phased retirement may choose to serve on the PAC.

Paragraph 3.4b.2 PAC Chair and Leadership Structure

The PAC chair is responsible for leading the committee and serving as its official representative.

PAC Chair responsibilities include:

- Convene and preside over PAC meetings.
- Ensure the review process proceeds in an orderly and timely manner consistent with [Table 3.3](#) Comprehensive Timeline.
- Serve on the College Review Committee (CRC).
- Provide a copy of PAC procedures to the department head and dean for review.

The PAC Chair is a rotating one- or two-year position, renewable once. Departments may elect co-chairs to serve alternating terms. A PAC chair or co-chair may not be under review for promotion in the same year.

PACs elect chair(s) by the deadline established in [Table 3.3: Comprehensive Timeline](#). Department PAC Procedures must define the leadership structure and chair duties. The PAC chair ensures that the department's Standards and Criteria Document and PAC Procedures Document align with University Guiding Standards and policies.

Subdivision 3.4c Department Head

The department head ensures that departmental standards and procedures align with University Guiding Standards, oversees faculty evaluation processes, and provides recommendations to the dean. When a department head's recommendation differs from the PAC's, the head must provide a written rationale to the PAC and the dean.

Department Head responsibilities include:

- Conduct annual and promotion reviews of faculty as outlined in [Table 3.4: Evaluation Timeline by Faculty Type](#) and [Table 3.3: Comprehensive Timeline](#).
- Maintain accessible electronic copies of official evaluation documents, including the Faculty Handbook, Departmental Standards and Criteria Document, and PAC Procedures Document.
- Distribute annual calls for promotion and tenure nominations in the spring semester; nominations are due April 30.
- In collaboration with the Provost's Office, ensures the Faculty Evaluation File is organized, secure, and available to the PAC.

Subdivision 3.4d College Review Committee (CRC)

The CRC, chaired by the dean, consists of department heads and PAC chairs. The committee promotes collaboration between faculty and administration to ensure consistency and equity in evaluation processes across the college.

CRC responsibilities include:

- The CRC meets at least once per year, preferably in the spring.
- It reviews all official evaluation documents and considers proposed changes from faculty, PACs, or administrators.
- The CRC ensures compatibility of departmental standards and procedures with university and accreditation requirements.

Subdivision 3.4e Dean

Each dean conducts an independent review of faculty evaluation materials and provides recommendations to the Provost.

A Dean's responsibilities include:

- Reviews include probationary, renewable term, term (1–4) (promotion only), and promotion/tenure cases.
- The dean provides a final decision for 1st, 2nd, 4th, or 5th year probationary, term (promotion-only), renewable term, and adjunct faculty review, unless there is an action case for termination.
- The dean issues a written rationale to the department head and PAC if differing from their recommendations.
- The dean consults the Provost when a recommendation departs from prior levels of review.

Subdivision 3.4f Provost

The Provost, in consultation with the deans and associate provosts, conducts an independent review of promotion, tenure, and specific faculty evaluation cases, ensuring institutional consistency and alignment with university standards. The Provost provides a written rationale when differing

from the dean's recommendation. The Provost does not typically participate in early probationary or non-promotion reviews unless termination is recommended.

A Provost's responsibilities include reviewing the following:

- Probationary Summary Cover Sheet
- Letter of Offer
- Current Curriculum Vitae
- Faculty Narrative (for Promotion, Tenure, or Third-Year Review)
- Statement of Teaching/Librarianship Philosophy
- PAC and Department Head Letters
- External Letters (if applicable)

The Provost may review additional materials as needed within the Faculty Evaluation File.

Subdivision 3.4g Board of Regents

The Board of Regents, State of Iowa, provides final approval for tenure and promotion decisions for probationary and tenured faculty.

Section 3.5 Conflicts of Interest

Faculty members must be treated and evaluated solely on individual merit. Evaluations must be free from conflicts of interest or any real or perceived preferential treatment resulting from family or personal relationships. Conflicts of interest may arise when an evaluator has a connection to the faculty member being evaluated through:

- A relationship by blood or adoption,
- A current or former marriage or domestic partnership,
- A romantic, sexual, or other consensual relationship that may appear to create favoritism, or
- Adverse involvement in an internal complaint, grievance, or legal action.

These standards ensure impartiality, equity, and fairness in all faculty evaluations.

Subdivision 3.5a University Level Procedures for Conflict of Interest

When a potential conflict of interest may exist, the evaluating faculty member must notify the dean of the potential conflict. The evaluator may choose to recuse themselves from the Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) review. If the evaluator does not recuse themselves, the dean, in consultation with the Associate Provost for Faculty, will determine whether a conflict of interest exists. If a conflict is confirmed, the evaluating faculty member will not be permitted to evaluate the other faculty member.

Section 3.6 University Evaluation Materials and File

Faculty demonstrate teaching scholarship, and service productivity, effectiveness, and impact through the submission of required evaluation artifacts (See [Table 3.6a](#)). These materials become part of the evaluation file and are used to assess performance by evaluators. An electronic Faculty Evaluation File must be maintained for each tenured, probationary, term (1–4), renewable term, and adjunct (temporary) faculty member.

Table 3.6a: Required Evaluation Materials for Evaluation

Evaluation Artifacts	Submission Responsibility	Frequency	Focus/Purpose
Curriculum Vita	Faculty	Action Case: Fall Non-Action Case: Spring	Teaching, Scholarship, and Service
Faculty Narrative	Faculty	Action Cases	Demonstrate a coherent and aligned work portfolio
Teaching Philosophy & Materials	Faculty	When updated	Teaching
Scholarship Materials	Faculty	Action Case: Fall Non-Action Case: Spring	Scholarship
Service Materials	Faculty	Action Case: Fall Non-Action Case: Spring	Service
Teaching Observations	PAC DH	Annually	Teaching
Annual Goals & Reflection	Faculty submits to Dept Secretary	Action Case: Fall Non-Action Case: Spring	Demonstrate ongoing growth and development in Teaching, Scholarship, and Service
Syllabi	Faculty submits to Dept Secretary	Each Semester	Teaching
Student Assessments	Provost Office Schedules / Dept Secretary Uploads	Each Semester	Teaching

Subdivision 3.6b Required Evaluation Materials

The following materials shall be included in all departmental Faculty Evaluation Files. Additional categories of the evaluation materials may be created as needed in specific departments, as applicable, upon agreement of the PAC and department head, and documented in the Professional Assessment Committee Procedures Document.

Paragraph 3.6b.1 Evaluation Materials – Faculty Uploads

- A. Updated Annual CV
- B. Faculty Narrative
- C. Teaching or Librarianship Philosophy
- D. Teaching or Librarianship Materials
- E. Scholarship Materials
- F. Service Materials

Paragraph 3.6b.2 Evaluation Materials – Staff Uploads

- A. Cover Sheets
- B. Letter of Offer
- C. MOUs
- D. Clock Stoppage or Request to Extend
- E. PAC Evaluation Letters
- F. Department Head Evaluation Letters
- G. Dean & Provost Evaluation Letters
- H. External Letters
- I. Professional Development Assignment Letter
- J. Student Assessments
- K. Syllabi
- L. Annual Goals & Reflection

Subdivision 3.6c Required Component: Curriculum Vita

All faculty are required to upload a current curriculum vita outlining their teaching, research, and service activities each year.

Subdivision 3.6d Required Component: Annual Goals and Reflection

All faculty must develop annual teaching, scholarship, and service goals in consultation with their department head and provide an annual written reflection on student assessments, teaching, scholarship, and service. Faculty must connect reflections to past and future goals. For third-year probationary, promotion, tenure, or Post-Tenure Review cases, faculty will reflect cumulatively on all years since their last review by preparing a Faculty Narrative. For action case faculty, they develop and reflect on goals with Department Head in Fall. For non-action case faculty, they develop and reflect on goals with Department Head in the Spring.

Subdivision 3.6e Required Component: Faculty Narrative

Faculty are required to submit a Faculty Narrative document in their Faculty Evaluation File on or before October 15 when seeking promotion and/or tenure, undergoing a comprehensive post-tenure review and during the third-year probationary review period.

Paragraph 3.6e.1: Procedures for Writing the Narrative

The narrative should be no more than five pages in length, single-spaced in no smaller than 11-point font. The narrative must provide an overview of faculty performance during the period under review (for third-year probationary faculty and faculty seeking tenure or promotion to associate professor, this period includes all years since their hiring; for promotion to professor, this period includes all years since their last review), to explain how they have met (or in the case of third-year reviews, how they are making progress toward meeting) cumulative Departmental Standards and Criteria in teaching, scholarship, and service, respectively. Faculty must address strengths, progress made, and areas in need of improvement in teaching*, scholarship, and service during the period under review. Future directions in all three areas must be noted as well.

Section 3.7 Materials and Methods for Measuring Faculty Performance in Teaching

Teaching effectiveness must be evaluated and documented through multiple methods to provide a comprehensive representation of a faculty member's teaching performance. Faculty members must document their teaching through required and optional artifacts placed in their Faculty Evaluation File. Evaluation artifacts include syllabi, sample assignments, lectures, activities, exams, or projects.

Subdivision 3.7a Required Component: Observations

Department heads and PACs must conduct annual teaching observations of probationary, term (1–4), renewable term, and action-case faculty. Results must be summarized in department-head and PAC reviews. Department heads, deans, Provost, or Provost's Designee may observe any faculty throughout the year. Observations by pedagogy experts must not substitute for peer observations by faculty with disciplinary expertise. Online, hybrid, or distance education courses must be observed through guest access or review of instructional materials.

Subdivision 3.7b Required Component: Student Assessments

Student assessments are one tool for evaluating teaching and must be used formatively to improve teaching and learning. Student assessments must be administered each semester/term for all faculty. Results must be transmitted to the faculty member within ten (10) working days after grades are due and placed in the Faculty Evaluation File.

Student comments regarding a faculty member's status in a protected class must not be used in evaluation. PACs, department heads, and deans must interpret student assessments in context of response rates, other evidence, and documented self-reflection.

In the event that certain non-standard teaching assignments are determined by the departmental faculty and department head to be exempt from student assessments, those activities will be specified in the Departmental Standards and Criteria.

Subdivision 3.7c Required Component: Teaching Philosophy

All faculty must maintain a succinct statement of teaching philosophy (no more than two pages, single-spaced, minimum 11-pt font) in their Faculty Evaluation File. The statement must be updated periodically as philosophies evolve.

Subdivision 3.7d Required Component: Syllabi

On or before the first day of instruction, faculty shall post to the University-prescribed website ADA compliant syllabus components that meet all requirements of the Board of Regents policy 3.20 Syllabi Posting and Notification of Students on Class Content. Syllabus posting requirements and instructions can be accessed through the Office of Provost website. The BOR Policy 3.20 required elements do not fully meet the UNI Policy on Syllabi; a more detailed syllabus must be shared with students and department heads. Syllabi templates that detail all requirements and reflect best practice are available on the Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning website [<https://cetl.uni.edu>].

Subdivision 3.7e Optional Teaching Components

Optional teaching components may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Teaching Artifacts
- Awards or Nominations for Teaching/Librarianship
- Other Evidence of Effectiveness

Section 3.8 Materials and Methods for Measuring Faculty Performance in Scholarship

Scholarship must be reviewed for its quality and meaningful impact. Peer review is the process for validating the quality, and meaningful impact of scholarship by disciplinary peers. Scholarship effectiveness will be evaluated and documented through multiple methods to provide a comprehensive representation of a faculty member's overall performance.

Probationary faculty must contribute to scholarship consistent with expectations outlined in the University Guiding Standards (see [Table 3.1b](#)). Some renewable-term and term (1–4) faculty may have scholarship included in their portfolio when described in their letter of offer or by departmental assignment.

Departments may evaluate additional dimensions of scholarship, which must be documented in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. Departments may establish supplementary approaches for evaluating these dimensions, provided they are documented in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document and applied equitably.

Departments must not create review methods that privilege one type of scholarship over another for tenured faculty.

Subdivision 3.8a Required Components: Evidence of Scholarship

Evidence of scholarship must include peer-reviewed publications, products, or creative activities (performances, compositions, exhibits, etc).

Paragraph 3.8a.1 Definition of Traditional Peer Review

Peer review is the recognized process for validating the quality and meaningful impact of scholarship by disciplinary peers. Traditional peer review of scholarship must involve evaluation of specific works, articles, grants, or projects by disciplinary experts, often anonymous, with relevant methodological or content expertise. In the case of creative work, peer review includes evaluation by juries, professional organizations, or disciplinary experts. Faculty maintain documentation of peer review (e.g., reviewer comments, letters of acceptance, or proof of review process).

Paragraph 3.8a.2 Additional Forms of Peer Review for Tenured Faculty

The university recognizes additional forms of peer review for tenured faculty—and, when appropriate, for probationary faculty—as specified in departmental standards.

When peer review by disciplinary experts is intrinsic to the dissemination or recognition of scholarship, that process must be accepted as validating the work's quality and meaningful

impact. Examples include receiving a major peer-reviewed grant, publication in an editor-reviewed trade press, invited presentations at prestigious conferences or exhibits, or awards for scholarly achievement.

Paragraph 3.8a.3 Procedures for Additional Forms of Peer Review

Departments must establish peer-review processes for evaluating high-quality scholarship that lacks an intrinsic peer-review mechanism, ensuring the work demonstrates disciplinary expertise, acceptable quality, and meaningful impact. These processes must be documented in the Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) Procedures Document. At a minimum, these processes should include:

- Faculty must request approval in writing from the department head and PAC chair.
- The request must describe the faculty member's contribution and the work's scope, quality, and impact.
- Faculty submit a list of disciplinary experts (per PAC procedures) who can assess the work.
- The department head and PAC chair select reviewers to assess scope, quality, and impact.
- Departments or faculty may solicit feedback from external constituencies (e.g., community organizations or professional partners) to document public impact.

Paragraph 3.8a.4 Peer Review of Scholarship Portfolios for Action Cases

Colleges or departments may require peer review of an entire scholarship portfolio for tenure or promotion. Criteria must be documented in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document, and the associated procedures must be documented in the PAC Procedures Document.

Subdivision 3.8b Optional Scholarship Components

Optional scholarship components may include:

- Scholarship Agenda (as required by department standards)
- Papers/Products under Review or in Progress
- Scholarly Awards or Nominations
- Other Evidence of Scholarship

Section 3.9 Materials and Methods for Measuring Faculty Performance in Service

Service must encompass activities that support the department, college, and university; contribute to the faculty member's professional field; and engage the broader community.

Departments must recognize that effective service takes multiple forms, including leadership, committee participation, advising, community outreach, and professional engagement. Service must be valued based on quality, impact, and consistency rather than volume alone. Departmental Standards and Criteria must define the types of service activities that are appropriate for evaluation and the standards by which they will be assessed. Departmental Standards and Criteria outline how different service types are weighed and interpreted.

Subdivision 3.9a Required Component: Professional, University, College, and Departmental Service Documentation

Evidence of service must include materials that demonstrate impact and leadership, including meaningful outcomes for department, college and UNI.

Paragraph 3.9a.1 Recognition of Leadership and Impact

Leadership roles or sustained, high-impact service must be given particular weight in evaluations. Faculty must be credited for service that advances institutional goals, fosters professional development, or provides significant community benefit.

Subdivision 3.9b Optional Components: External or Community Service

Faculty may include evidence of professional or community service, such as organizing conferences, serving on professional boards, providing expert consultation, or leading community-

based initiatives. Departments include such contributions as evidence of service when relevant to the institutional mission or disciplinary expertise.

Section 3.10 Faculty Evaluation File Access

Faculty Evaluation Files are official university records and must be stored securely within a protected electronic portal with controlled access. Large ("bulky") materials may be stored physically elsewhere if a record of the item remains in the file. Departments or university offices may maintain approved documentation databases for official review access.

PAC members must have access to the faculty evaluation materials necessary for fair and thorough review. PAC members may access Faculty Evaluation Files only during designated evaluation periods.

Subdivision 3.10a University Level Procedures for Faculty Evaluation File Review, Material Removal, or Response

Faculty have the right to request to review their evaluation file, remove materials, or respond to materials in the file. The addition or removal of materials from their Faculty Evaluation File when warranted and with the permission of the department head.

Paragraph 3.10a.1 Faculty Member Review of Faculty Evaluation File

Faculty must have access to review the full contents of their Faculty Evaluation File.

Paragraph 3.10a.2 Faculty Member Response to File Materials

Faculty have the right to respond to any material in their Faculty Evaluation File. Written responses must be included in the same folder as the referenced material and become part of the permanent file.

Paragraph 3.10a.3 Faculty Member Request to Remove Materials

Faculty may request in writing the removal of any item in the file. The written request must include a rationale for the requested removal. The dean and the Provost (or designee) review the request. If both agree, the item is removed. If denied, the faculty member is notified in writing within 30 class days with reasons for the decision.

Paragraph 3.10a.4 Materials Removal upon the End of Employment at UNI

Faculty may request the return of original materials following the conclusion of employment. Requests must be made in writing to the department head within 30 days of separation. The department documents the removal, provides a written summary to the faculty member, and includes this record in the Faculty Evaluation File.

Paragraph 3.10a.5 Maintaining Copies

Faculty are responsible for maintaining personal copies of materials included in their Faculty Evaluation File.

Section 3.11 Oral Communication

Please see the Board of Regents policy 3.21 English Language Proficiency (Oral Communication Competence), as per Iowa Code 262.9(24).

Section 3.12 University Guiding Standards for Teaching, Librarianship, Scholarship, and Service

University Guiding Standards provide broad, guiding standards to departments for evaluating faculty performance annually and cumulatively for promotion, tenure, or Post-Tenure Review. The Departmental Standards and Criteria Document should specify criteria for faculty performance regarding particular operationalization of the University Guiding Standards, including expected products/contributions/measures of productivity, their extent (e.g., how many), their frequency, and other important dimensions, for annual review, tenure and/or promotion, and Post-Tenure Review. The Departmental Standards and Criteria for Faculty Evaluation must be consistent with the University Guiding Standards and methods for measuring, as documented in [Chapter 3](#) of this Handbook.

Tables [3.1a](#), [3.1b](#), [3.1c](#), and [3.1d](#) below document University Guiding Standards which Meet Expectations, Exceed Expectations, and Need Improvement for each area of faculty performance

(teaching, scholarship, service, and librarianship) by faculty rank and portfolio. Although there may be disciplinary differences that render some expectations more or less important or moot in a particular circumstance documented in the Departmental Standards and Criteria for Faculty Evaluation, the “Meets Expectations” rows document comprehensive standards, all of which should generally apply to faculty. The “Exceeds Expectations” and “Needs Improvement” rows offer examples and are therefore inclusive but not exhaustive.

Section 3.13 Review by Department Head

Subdivision 3.13a Purpose

The department head reviews all probationary, tenured, term (1-4), and renewable term faculty, according to their designated workload portfolio or contract. For action-case faculty, the department head review letter includes a review for continuation, promotion, or post-tenure, as well as the annual review. For non-action case faculty, the department head letter is an annual review. Review provides an annual assessment of faculty performance, feedback for faculty reflection, an opportunity for faculty to access professional development resources, and the allocation of merit pay.

Subdivision 3.13b Conflicts of Interest

Department heads must follow [University Policy 4.03 Conflicts of Interest in Employment \(Nepotism\)](#).

Subdivision 3.13c Timeline and Process Schedule for Review by Faculty Rank: Summary

The Annual Review process follows the timelines and process schedule in [Table 3.4](#) Evaluation Timeline by Faculty Type: Calendar Year (January-December) and [Table 3.3](#) Comprehensive Timeline - Calendar Year.

Subdivision 3.13d Annual Goals Meeting with Department Head

The department head shall have individual meetings with all faculty. Department heads will meet first with Action Case faculty (all ranks) by the end of September and prioritize tenure-track faculty following faculty’s submission of evaluation materials. The purpose of each meeting is developmental and formative to review progress on the faculty member’s previous year’s goals and discuss future short-term and long-term goals for the faculty member. Department heads and probationary faculty may also meet a second time during the spring semester.

Subdivision 3.13e Evaluation Letters

Evaluation letters provide faculty with feedback and decision outcomes. An evaluation letter shall include a summary of the assessment of the faculty member’s performance in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service according to the faculty member’s appointment and designated portfolio. Letters should not typically exceed a maximum of three pages, single spaced in minimum 11-pt font. Assessments of teaching shall include a summary of teaching observations and student assessments, as well as a narrative describing the improvements made in teaching and librarianship over time. Assessments of scholarship shall be both qualitative and quantitative but shall not include a narrative describing each scholarly work. Assessments of service activities shall address both the quality and quantity of service. Each letter shall include the relevant outcomes specified in Subdivisions [3.13f](#) (Outcomes of Annual Review for All Faculty), [3.13g](#) (Outcomes for Retention/Continuance of Probationary and Renewable Term Faculty), [3.13i](#) (Outcomes for Promotion and/or Tenure). Letters shall also specify the annual merit designations for each area of performance, according to [Subdivision 3.13j](#). The letters shall be transmitted concurrently to the dean and faculty member and shall be added to the Faculty Evaluation File.

Subdivision 3.13f Outcomes of Annual Review for All Faculty

Department heads shall assign a rating of (a) “Meets Expectations”, (b) “Exceeds Expectations”, or (c) “Needs Improvement” for each area of performance (teaching, scholarship, service), according to the criteria by portfolio and rank as specified in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. Department heads’ ratings shall not be overruled except as a result of a Faculty Petition or Grievance decision as outlined in Faculty Handbook Chapters [11](#) and [13](#).

Subdivision 3.13g Outcomes for Retention/Continuance of Probationary and Renewable Term Faculty

Paragraph 3.13g.1 Continued Probation

Department heads shall recommend Continued Probation (probationary faculty) or retention (renewable term faculty) only if the faculty member “Meets Expectations” or “Exceeds Expectations” in each area of job performance (teaching, scholarship, and service) required by portfolio and rank. The department head shall state the strengths of faculty performance and any recommendations for improvement.

Paragraph 3.13g.2 Continued Probation with Difficulties

Department heads shall recommend Continued Probation with Difficulties if the probationary faculty member “Needs Improvement” in one or more of the areas under review. The department head, in consultation with the dean, shall provide specific actions to be taken and outcomes to be completed in the next year to address the deficiencies. The department Head shall meet with the faculty member to create a plan for improving performance. The department head and faculty member will consult the CETL to develop a teaching improvement plan. Mentoring by faculty peers is strongly recommended for teaching, scholarship and service improvement plans.

Paragraph 3.13g.3 Termination

Seriously deficient performance is sufficient cause for a recommendation to terminate a faculty member’s probationary appointment. (See [Section 2.1](#), [Subdivision 2.3b](#) & [Subdivision 2.3e](#)). In making such a recommendation, department heads must explain why the performance warrants termination. If termination is approved, probationary faculty members shall remain employed by the university for a period of one academic year, performing duties assigned by the department head and dean.

Subdivision 3.13h Third-Year Review for Probationary Faculty

Department heads provide a comprehensive review of probationary faculty member’s performance to date in year three in order to assess cumulative accomplishments in teaching, scholarship, and service in relation to Departmental Standards and Criteria.

Subdivision 3.13i Outcomes for Promotion and/or Tenure

For promotion and/or tenure cases, department heads shall recommend (a) Promotion, (b) Promotion Denied, (c) Tenure, (d) Tenure Denied, or (e) Termination, as appropriate for the case. Department heads shall provide a substantive rationale for their decisions in the evaluation letter.

Subdivision 3.13j Awarding of Annual Merit

First, promotion raises (See [Section 9.2](#)) shall be dispersed from the merit and promotions pool (see the Collective Bargaining Agreement) to individual faculty members. Second, the remaining merit pool shall be allocated to each college according to the number of merit-eligible faculty FTE (not a percentage of salary) within the college. Third, department heads assign individual faculty member merit ratings in their Annual Review evaluation, based on the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. Finally, merit awards are dispersed to individual faculty members within the college according to the individual faculty member’s Merit Score. There shall be no deviation from the utilization of the university merit formula in each college.

Merit pay is added to the faculty member’s base pay. A letter with the following year’s salary, designating the increase to base pay and merit award amount (if applicable), shall be distributed to faculty by Human Resource Services.

Paragraph 3.13j.1 Eligibility for Merit

When not specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, all tenured, probationary, renewable term, and term (1-4) faculty are eligible for merit pay.

Paragraph 3.13j.2 Merit Formula

The department head shall calculate a total merit score for each faculty member based on their portfolio and performance as measured by the Departmental Standards and Criteria

Document. Department heads shall assign full points up to a maximum of 4 points for each area of performance (teaching, scholarship, service). Then, they multiply each designation by the percentage for that area (teaching, scholarship, service) of the faculty member's official portfolio assignment (standard, extended teaching, or approved modified portfolio) as designated in this handbook. The department head will add the score for each area to determine the faculty member's Merit Score.

Merit Calculation Summary:

"Exceeds Expectations" = 4 the percentage
 "Meets Expectations" = 1, 2, or 3 x for each area
 "Needs Improvement" = 0 of official portfolio

Faculty member's Merit Score = (Teaching rating x teaching portfolio percentage) + (Scholarship rating x Scholarship portfolio percentage) + (Service rating x Service portfolio percentage)^[1]

Only faculty who receive a 1 or above in each area will receive merit pay in a given year. (Faculty members who receive a 0 in any area will receive an overall 0 for their Faculty Member Merit Score and are therefore ineligible for merit.) The total amount allocated for merit pay is divided by the total number of points for all faculty (ranging from 0 to 4 for each faculty member) within each college. For the calculation of the merit pool of available funds, those who will receive no merit (a "0" merit score) are excluded from the total number of faculty in each college merit pool for that year. The quotient is how much each point is worth. For each faculty merit award, multiply each point worth times number of points awarded.

The total merit funds disbursed cannot exceed the amount allotted for merit in a given year.

^[1] When a faculty member does not have an area as a part of their workload designation, remove it from the equation altogether.

Examples:

- The equation for a faculty member on a standard portfolio with designations at a high level of "Meets Expectations" for teaching and service, and "Exceeds Expectations" for scholarship: (3 x .6) (for teaching) + (4 x .25) (for scholarship) + (3 x .15) (for service) = 3.25
- For a faculty member on a standard portfolio who "Exceeds Expectations" for teaching and "Meets Expectations" at mid-level for scholarship and service: (4 x .6) (for teaching) + (2 x .25) (for scholarship) + (2 x .15) (for service) = 3.2
- For a faculty member who has a course reassignment to do service and performs at a high level of "Meets Expectations": (3 x .40) + (3 x .25) + (3 x .35) = 3.0
- For a term faculty member who "Meets Expectations" at a high level in teaching (80%) and performs service at mid-level of "Meets Expectations" (20% of the time): (3 x .80) + (2 x .20) = 2.8
- For a faculty member with a standard portfolio but does not fulfill service responsibilities: (2 x .6) (for teaching) + (2 x .25) (for scholarship) + (0 x .15) (for service) = 0

In cases when a faculty member's portfolio differs between semesters within the same academic year, multiply the first semester by half, multiply the second semester by half, and add together.

Section 3.14 Review by PAC

Subdivision 3.14a Purpose

The Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) conducts independent reviews of faculty performance. PAC reviews include recommendations regarding continuation/retention, promotion, tenure, post-tenure (during a Comprehensive Review), and performance improvement plans. The procedures for the evaluation process shall be detailed in the departmental Professional Assessment Committee Procedures Document. Standards and criteria for evaluating faculty performance are documented in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document and the University Guiding Standards.

Subdivision 3.14b Timeline and Process Schedule for Review by Faculty Rank: Summary

The Annual Review process follows the timelines and process schedule in [Table 3.4](#) Evaluation Timeline by Faculty Type: Calendar Year (January-December), [Table 3.5](#) and [Table 3.3](#) Comprehensive Timeline - Calendar Year.

A yearly PAC evaluation will be based on performance from January 1 - October 15 of the preceding academic year.

Subdivision 3.14c PAC Reports

As applicable, based on [Table 3.4](#), PACs shall submit recommendations through written reports to probationary faculty members, candidates for promotion or tenure, and term (1-4) or renewable term instructors, while concurrently submitting their report(s) to the department head (for inclusion in the Faculty Evaluation File) and dean by the appropriate deadline (see [Table 3.3](#)). Such reports should reflect the PAC's comprehensive evaluation and collective judgments, as well as a report on the vote totals. Voting totals must be specific in nature (e.g., 6-3-2 [6=in favor, 3=opposed, 2=abstain] rather than using "recommends" or "unanimously recommends") in order to clearly indicate the PAC's distribution of voting within a department. For probationary or renewable term cases, see [Subdivision 3.14e](#) (probationary) and [Subdivision 3.14f](#) (renewable term). For promotion and/or tenure cases, see [Subdivision 3.14h](#). For Post-Tenure Review cases, see [Subdivision 3.14i](#).

PAC reports will include a summary of the assessment of the faculty member's performance in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service according to the faculty member's designated portfolio. Letters should not typically exceed five pages, single space in a minimum of 11-pt font. Assessments of teaching/librarianship shall include a summary of teaching observations and student assessments, as well as a narrative describing the success of improvements made in teaching and learning over time. Assessments of scholarship shall be documented with an overall description in both qualitative and quantitative terms but not describing each scholarly work individually. Assessments of service activities shall address both the quality and quantity of service.

Either the department head or PAC may call a meeting to discuss the majority report.

Paragraph 3.14c.1 Minority Reports

Members of the PAC may also submit minority reports. A minority report must be submitted by December 15 (see [Table 3.3](#) Comprehensive Timeline - Calendar Year). PAC procedures should determine whether or not the submitted minority report will be signed by those PAC members creating the report.

Subdivision 3.14d Meetings with the PAC

PACs may choose to meet with probationary faculty members, and/or any additional faculty members scheduled to be promotion and/or tenure cases, to review the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document for faculty appointments, promotions and tenure.

Subdivision 3.14e Procedures for Evaluation of Faculty by the Professional Assessment Committee

The review may be conducted by the full membership of the PAC or by a subcommittee, as specified in the Departmental Professional Assessment Committee Procedures Document.

Paragraph 3.14e.1 PAC Deliberations

PAC deliberations are to remain confidential and professional throughout the evaluation process. A PAC member may not disclose any information related to votes or comments about a candidate to the candidate or others. Faculty should report violations to the PAC chair for resolution or to the Faculty Petition Committee in the case of a violation of university policy.

Paragraph 3.14e.2 PAC Statement on Parliamentary Authority

Where possible, the PAC will conduct its business consistent with the motion to consider informally. The parliamentary authority shall be the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order in all cases where they are not inconsistent with this structure of Professional Assessment Committee Procedures Document or other university policies.

Paragraph 3.14e.3 PAC Voting

PACs shall vote on recommendations of retention, tenure, promotion, termination, and Post-Tenure Review. Votes shall be by secret ballot distributed to all PAC members.

Paragraph 3.14e.4 Additional PAC Procedures

PACs shall document any additional procedures according to [Subdivision 3.3](#) Professional Assessment Committee Procedures Document.

Subdivision 3.14f Outcomes for Probationary Faculty in Each Area

For yearly reviews, as applicable, of probationary, term (1-4) and renewable term faculty, PACs shall assign a rating of (a) "Meets Expectations", (b) "Exceeds Expectations", or (c) "Needs Improvement" for each area of performance (teaching, scholarship, service), according to the criteria by portfolio and rank as specified in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. PACs shall provide a thorough rationale for their decisions in the PAC report.

Subdivision 3.14g Outcomes for Overall Retention/Continuance of Probationary and Renewable Term Faculty

For probationary and renewable term faculty, PACs shall vote on and recommend (a) Continued Probation (probationary faculty) or Retention (renewable term faculty), (b) Continued Probation (probationary faculty) or Retention (renewable term faculty) with Difficulties, or (c) Termination. PACs shall provide a thorough rationale for their decisions in the PAC Report (see [Subdivision 3.14c](#)).

Paragraph 3.14g.1 Continued Probation

PACs shall recommend Continued Probation or Retention if the faculty member "Meets Expectations" or "Exceeds Expectations" in each area of job performance (teaching, scholarship, service) required by portfolio and rank. The PAC report shall state perceived strengths and any areas where improvement is needed.

Paragraph 3.14g.2 Continued Probation with Difficulties

PACs shall recommend Continued Probation or Retention with Difficulties if the faculty member "Needs Improvement" in one or more of the areas under review. The PAC shall recommend specific actions to be taken and outcomes to be completed in the next year to address the deficiencies.

Paragraph 3.14g.3 Termination

Seriously deficient performance is sufficient cause for a recommendation to terminate a faculty member's probationary appointment. (See [Section 2.1 Subdivision 2.3e](#)). In making such a recommendation, PACs must explain why the performance warrants termination.

Subdivision 3.14h Third-Year Review for Probationary and Renewable Term Faculty

PACs provide a comprehensive review of a probationary faculty member's performance to date in year three. PACs also shall assign a rating of (a) "Meets Expectations", (b) "Exceeds Expectations", or (c) "Needs Improvement" for each area of performance (teaching, scholarship, service), according to the criteria by portfolio and rank as specified in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document.

Subdivision 3.14i Outcomes for Promotion and/or Tenure Cases

For promotion and/or tenure cases, PACs provide a comprehensive review of performance to date or since the last promotion, as appropriate. PACs shall vote on and recommend (a) Promotion or (b) Promotion Denied, and/or (c) Tenure, or (d) Tenure Denied, as appropriate for the case. PACs shall also assign a rating of (a) "Meets Expectations", (b) "Exceeds Expectations", or (c) "Needs Improvement" for each area of performance (teaching, scholarship, service), according to the cumulative (not annual) criteria by portfolio and rank as specified in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. PACs shall provide a thorough rationale for their decisions in the PAC report.

Subdivision 3.14i Outcomes for Post Tenure Comprehensive Review of Tenured Faculty

During a Comprehensive Post-Tenure Review, PACs shall vote on and assign a rating of (a) "Meets Expectations", (b) "Exceeds Expectations", or (c) "Needs Improvement" for each area of performance (teaching, scholarship, service), according to the criteria by portfolio and rank as specified in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. PACs shall provide a thorough rationale for their decisions in the PAC report.

Section 3.15 Promotion and/or Tenure of Probationary and Tenured Faculty

Subdivision 3.15a Eligibility for Promotion and/or Tenure

Probationary faculty are eligible for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor and/or tenure. Tenure and promotion to Associate Professor require that the candidate has a documented record of accomplishment in teaching, scholarship, and service. It is recognized that each candidate will have varied degrees of accomplishment in the three areas. Only after an affirmative judgment as to documented teaching effectiveness has been made can serious consideration be given to an evaluation of scholarship and service. Individuals holding term (1-4), renewable term, temporary, non-academic, or other non-probationary appointments at the University are not eligible to be considered for tenure. Tenured Associate Professors are eligible for promotion to the rank of Professor.

Paragraph 3.15a.1 Time in Rank

Probationary faculty are expected to undergo a review for tenure in year six of their tenure-track appointment, unless specified in their letter of offer. An Assistant Professor must complete at least six years of service in rank, including at least three years at the rank of Assistant Professor at UNI, before promotion to Associate Professor.

An Associate Professor completes at least six years in rank before promotion to Professor, unless specified in their letter of offer.

Under extenuating circumstances, a faculty member may request to: 1) suspend the probationary tenure/promotion clock or 2) extend the probationary period for a 7th year by completing a [Request to Suspend the Probationary Tenure/Promotion Clock](#) or [Request to Extend the Probationary Period for a Seventh Year](#), both of which are located in the forms repository.

A clock stoppage means that the faculty member's tenure and promotion clock is stopped, and the year does not count toward tenure. (If stopped in year three, the following academic year will be considered year three, even if it is the faculty member's fourth year.) The faculty member is not evaluated by the PAC or department head in the fall of that academic year. The faculty member does submit annual evaluation materials and is evaluated for merit in the spring. Any work completed by the faculty member during a clock stoppage year is added to the Faculty Evaluation File.

Paragraph 3.15a.2 Early Promotion or Tenure

Because sufficient time is necessary to demonstrate consistent levels of meeting or exceeding expectations of cumulative performance which are expected across a normal six year evaluation period, the awarding of tenure and promotion one year prior to the sixth year of service is exceptional and rare and reserved for cases of consistent, exceptional performance, as defined by Departmental Standards and Criteria. Due to the shortened

evaluation time period, candidates are expected to surpass the cumulative Departmental Standards & Criteria in the area of teaching, scholarship, and service.

A faculty member may apply for consideration for early tenure and promotion by notifying the department head and PAC Chair in writing no later than April 30 prior to the early tenure and promotion review process beginning in the Fall. Any informal discussions with the PAC or department head are not a guarantee that, after full review, the PAC or department head will recommend early tenure and promotion.

Candidate materials are due October 15 and follow the regular submission and review process by the PAC and department head. The PAC recommendation for candidates applying for early tenure and promotion shall include two separate votes: one for early tenure and promotion and the other for continued probation/continued probation with difficulties/termination. If the PAC and department head do not both recommend early tenure and promotion for the candidate, the case does not move forward. Rather, it reverts to a standard fifth year review.

Paragraph 3.15a.3 Years Credit

Faculty may be awarded years of credit toward tenure and/or promotion upon hire. Years of credit, including specific accomplishments that count toward standards and criteria for tenure or promotion, must be documented in the faculty member's letter of offer or MOU, approved by the Dean and Provost (or designee) and placed in the faculty member's Faculty Evaluation File (See Section 3.4). Probationary faculty retain the choice to use prior years of service or not; however, if they elect to not go up for tenure and/or promotion at the prescribed time using those years of credit, they may not use prior service or accomplishments for those credited years in the future. In that case, only UNI years of service will count for a tenure and promotion bid.

Paragraph 3.15a.4 Withdrawal from Consideration

Faculty who request consideration for promotion to Professor may withdraw their request in a letter to the PAC chair, department head, dean, and Provost before receiving the Provost's decision (see [Table 3.3](#) Comprehensive Timeline - Calendar Year).

Paragraph 3.15a.5 Denial of Promotion for Tenured Faculty

Faculty with tenure who are denied promotion continue their employment at their current rank. They are eligible for consideration for promotion the following year or any year thereafter.

Subdivision 3.15b Timeline

Faculty shall submit a written notification to the department head and PAC chair by April 30 for consideration for promotion and/or tenure for the following academic year. Request for consideration may be made earlier, per department procedures. Materials for the Faculty Evaluation Files for individuals seeking promotion and/or tenure are due on October 15. Faculty shall adhere to the timeline and process schedule summarized in [Table 3.4](#) and [Table 3.3](#).

Subdivision 3.15c Promotion Salaries

Upon promotion to Associate Professor or Professor, faculty members shall receive salary increases to base pay as documented in [Section 9.2](#).

Section 3.16 Post-Tenure Review of Faculty

Subdivision 3.16a Purpose

The source of the intellectual vitality of the University of Northern Iowa is the faculty. Individual faculty members, through the performance of their professional duties, create and nourish this vitality for the benefit of our students and the wider society. Tenured faculty members have an especially important role to play in sustaining and enhancing an academic environment in which free and rigorous inquiry can be pursued. Given their central role in serving our students and the wider community, it is critically important for the tenured faculty to be provided a mechanism for periodic assessment and reflection.

Post-Tenure Review affords the opportunity for the professional performance of each tenured faculty member to be assessed longitudinally every six years. Self-reflection within departmental and university contexts presents the faculty member with a guidepost for further professional growth and re-tuning, for example, to better address current institutional priorities. In addition, these periodic assessments allow UNI to recognize tenured faculty for consistently high-quality work. Finally, for those faculty members who are found to be deficient in one or more areas, there will be an opportunity to design and implement a performance improvement plan.

Ultimately, the goal of Post-Tenure Review is to assist tenured faculty to engage in a process of professional development over the length of their careers. Post-Tenure Review is not a reevaluation of the tenure decision.

Academic freedom is paramount in order for faculty members to be fully effective as teachers and scholars. The Post-Tenure Review process at the University of Northern Iowa is conducted according to this handbook and is guided by the ["Minimum Standards for Good Practice if a Formal System of Post-Tenure Review is Established in the 1999 AAUP report *Post-Tenure Review: An AAUP Response*"](#) and UNI's previous evaluation system.

Subdivision 3.16b Relationship of Post-Tenure Review to Promotion to Professor

Post-Tenure Review and promotion to Professor are independent processes; departments document their standards, which may be different, for each in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. However, consideration for promotion to Professor takes the place of Post-Tenure Review. A successful Post-Tenure Review does not automatically qualify a faculty member for promotion to Professor. At the same time, a successful Post-Tenure Review does not require meeting all the criteria necessary for promotion to Professor (see [APPENDIX C: Legacy Status And New Department Standards Plan For Probationary Faculty; Post-Tenure Review And Promotion For Adjunct \(50% Or More Appointments\) And Renewable Term Faculty](#)).

Subdivision 3.16c Post-Tenure Review Process

Faculty typically undergo Summary Reviews every six years. These six years are referred to as the Post-Tenure Review period.

A Comprehensive Review may be scheduled as applicable based on results of Annual Reviews throughout the Post-Tenure Review period.

Annual Reviews are the foundation of Post-Tenure Review. As described in [Section 3.13](#), the department head conducts an Annual Review of the performance of each faculty member in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service. Performance in each of the three areas will be assessed as (a) "Meets Expectations", (b) "Exceeds Expectations", or (c) "Needs Improvement", according to the faculty member's rank and portfolio. Standards and Criteria are documented in the University Guiding Standards and Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. The results of the Annual Reviews over the Post-Tenure Review period will determine which type of Post-Tenure Review will be scheduled and when.

Subdivision 3.16d Summary Review

Faculty members shall undergo a Summary Review if they "Meet Expectations" or "Exceed Expectations" in all three areas of teaching, scholarship, and service for three or more years of Annual Reviews. The Summary Review shall be a brief summary evaluation conducted by the department head.

Paragraph 3.16d.1 Materials Required for Summary Review

- (i) Faculty Narrative (as detailed in [Subdivision 3.6e](#));
- (ii) Annual Review letters from the department head over the review period;
- (iii) Evaluation materials over the review period, see [Table 3.6a](#);
- (iv) Current Curriculum Vitae.

Paragraph 3.16d.2 Department Head's Summary Review Report

The department head shall summarize the results of the Annual Reviews over the Post-Tenure Review period and provide an overall (cumulative) rating of "Meets Expectations" or "Exceeds Expectations" in teaching, scholarship, and service. The head may note areas

of strength or make recommendations for performance improvement. The head may also discuss professional development opportunities or workload adjustment per [Chapter 4](#) of this Handbook.

The department head's report shall be submitted to the dean and faculty member and placed in the faculty member's Faculty Evaluation File. The faculty member may submit a written response to the department head and the dean, which shall also be placed in the Faculty Evaluation File.

Subdivision 3.16e Comprehensive Review

A faculty member shall undergo a Comprehensive Review if one of the following occurs during the Post-Tenure Review period:

- Faculty member receives a "Needs Improvement" designation in one or more review areas (teaching, scholarship, and service, according to one's portfolio) in three Annual Reviews (not necessarily consecutively or in the same review area)
- Faculty member receives two consecutive "Needs Improvement" designations in teaching during Annual Reviews

Faculty members will be notified via their Annual Review letter if a Comprehensive Review is scheduled, which will be separately conducted by the PAC and department head the academic year following this notification.

Once Annual Review letters are distributed, department heads shall notify the PAC Chair of any Comprehensive Reviews to be scheduled or voted upon in the subsequent Fall.

Paragraph 3.16e.1 Materials Required for Comprehensive Review

- (i) Faculty Narrative (as detailed in [Subdivision 3.6e](#));
- (ii) Annual Review letters from the department head over the review period;
- (iii) Evaluation materials over the review period, see [Table 3.6a](#);
- (iv) Current Curriculum Vitae;
- (iv) Additional materials consistent with departmental review policies, as documented in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document.

Paragraph 3.16e.2 Department Head and PAC's Comprehensive Review Report

The PAC's report (along with an optional minority report) shall be submitted to the faculty member, department head, and dean; and the report will be placed in the faculty member's Faculty Evaluation File. The department head's report shall be sent to the faculty member and dean, and placed in the Faculty Evaluation File. The faculty member may submit a written response to the PAC or department head and dean, which shall also be placed in the Faculty Evaluation File.

Paragraph 3.16e.3 Outcome 1: "Meets Expectations" or "Exceeds Expectations" Comprehensive Review Result

If the department head and PAC give a rating of "Meets Expectations" or "Exceeds Expectations" in each of the areas of the faculty member's portfolio during a Comprehensive Review, the post-tenure cycle restarts.

Paragraph 3.16e.4 Outcome 2: "Needs Improvement" Comprehensive Review Result

If the department head or PAC gives a rating of "Needs Improvement" for one or more areas of faculty performance during the Comprehensive Review, the department head shall work with the faculty member to develop a Performance Improvement Plan in order to strengthen performance in future Annual Reviews. Faculty members draft the Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to be discussed with their department head in the Spring. Faculty should submit goals for any area of performance not covered by the PIP. The Performance Improvement Plan is finalized by the end of the Spring semester. The Performance Improvement Plan shall be approved by the department head and dean and placed in the Faculty Evaluation File. If the faculty member and the department head cannot agree on an acceptable plan, the department head and PAC chair will create one that is approved

by the dean. The plan shall be sent to the faculty member for final review before implementation.

The plan shall contain specific actions and measures to address the deficiencies found in the review. The department head and faculty member will consult the CETL for teaching improvement plans. Mentoring by faculty peers is strongly recommended for teaching, scholarship, and service improvement plans. Faculty will report their progress on the Performance Improvement Plan in their annual evaluation materials submissions completed by Feb 1 of the following semester.

During the next two subsequent Annual Reviews, the department head shall use the Performance Improvement Plan and Follow-up Report as a basis for evaluation. Significant progress on all corrective elements of the plan will be expected by the second Annual Review.

Paragraph 3.16e.5 Sanctions

In the event that recurring evaluations reveal a faculty member's continuing and persistent problems in which improvement has not been achieved in one or more areas, additional remedies may include minor sanctions (see [Subdivision 12.3b](#)).

When the continuous and persistent problems do not lend themselves to improvement after considerable and documented efforts for a reasonable period of time and calls into question the faculty member's fundamental ability to function in their position, then major sanctions may be pursued (see [Subdivision 12.3a](#)). Any sanctions must be levied in accordance with University Policies and Procedures and the Faculty Handbook, including Sections [2.1](#), [2.5](#), and [Chapter 12](#). The standard for dismissal remains that of just cause as defined in [Subdivision 12.2d](#). Successive negative reviews do not diminish the obligation of the institution to show such cause for dismissal. However, evidence gathered in such reviews may constitute evidence of just cause, such as but not limited to the inability to complete duties and lack of progression towards improvement.

In situations involving alleged misconduct, appropriate procedures as detailed in [Chapter 12](#), will be invoked.

Paragraph 3.16e.6 Appeals

Appeal procedures are located in [Chapter 11](#) and [Chapter 13](#) of the Faculty Handbook.

Subdivision 3.16f Reviews for Other Levels of Performance

If a faculty member's Annual Reviews exhibit deficiencies but not at a level for which a comprehensive review is mandatory, the head may schedule either a Summary Review or a Comprehensive Review for the scheduled Post-Tenure Review, provided that the department head and the majority of the PAC (via a vote at the beginning of the following Fall semester) agree that such a review is warranted.

Subdivision 3.16g Special Circumstances

- (i) A faculty member may petition to defer Post-Tenure Review for good cause, including PDA, Fulbright assignments, extended FMLA, or leaves of absence approved by the Provost. The faculty member must submit a written request to the department head as soon as practical. If a deferment is granted, it shall be for a period of one year.
- (ii) A faculty member who plans to go up for promotion the following year may delay Post-Tenure Review for a year. In the case that the faculty member does not go up for promotion the following year, the faculty member will undergo Post-Tenure Review that year.
- (iii) A faculty member who will retire within one year after a Post-Tenure Review is scheduled to occur may choose to forgo the review by submitting a written retirement letter to Human Resource Services (HRS).
- (iv) Faculty members on phased retirement shall not be required to undergo Post-Tenure Review.

Subdivision 3.16h Outstanding Performance Rewards

Full professors who have received outstanding performance reviews during Post-Tenure Review shall receive a monetary award as documented in [Section 9.3](#).

Section 3.17 Review and Promotion of Adjunct, Term (1-4) and Renewable Term Faculty

Subdivision 3.17a Purpose

A central goal of the University of Northern Iowa is that all students be afforded a high-quality learning environment for the development of the knowledge and skills necessary for professional careers and productive citizenship. Thus, in carrying out the responsibilities set forth in their portfolio, adjunct, term (1-4) and renewable term faculty members are expected to meet high professional standards. Further, the university also seeks to provide an equitable and inclusive shared governance structure to ensure appropriate participation in the university's affairs. This governance structure should include non-tenure-track faculty to the fullest level consistent with their workload but without the erosion of the rights and privileges of the tenure system to recognize non-tenure-track faculty who continue to develop strong teaching. Given their important role in the life of the university, a system of ranked positions, similar to those available on the tenure track, exists for adjunct (with 50% or more appointments), term (1-4) and renewable term faculty.

Subdivision 3.17b Review of Adjunct, Term (1-4) and Renewable Term Faculty

The evaluation schedule by department heads and PACs is summarized in [Table 3.2](#).

Department heads review adjunct professors with an appointment of 50% or more during the first year and every sixth semester the instructor teaches thereafter, or sooner if the faculty member's performance is found to Need Improvement (see [Section 3.13](#)) or when seeking promotion. Department heads may review adjunct professors with appointments below 50% at their discretion.

PACs review adjunct professors of any rank when seeking promotion or more frequently as documented in the Professional Assessment Committee Procedures Document (see [Section 3.14](#)). PACs may review adjunct professors with appointments below 50% at their discretion as documented in the PAC Procedures Document.

Adjunct faculty members may request an Annual Review by the department head or PAC at other times. Although not required by the Faculty Handbook, some PACs and/or adjunct faculty may deem it prudent for PAC reviews to take place on a voluntary basis in advance of the mandated review for promotion in years 6 and 12.

Department heads review term (1-4) and renewable term Instructors of any rank annually.

PACs review term (1-4) and renewable term Instructors yearly in their first two years. Thereafter, the PAC will only review the term (1-4) and renewable term faculty member in the year following a "Needs Improvement" rating in any area, or when the faculty member is seeking promotion in year 6 or beyond. Additionally, evaluations may occur at the request of the faculty member or at the discretion of the PAC, as documented in the Professional Assessment Committee Procedures Document.

Subdivision 3.17c Promotion

Adjunct faculty (on 50% or more appointments each semester) are eligible to apply for promotion after twelve cumulative semesters in rank at or above that FTE appointment. Assistant Adjunct Professors may be promoted to Associate Adjunct Professor and then Senior Adjunct Professor (see [APPENDIX C: Legacy Status And New Department Standards Plan For Probationary Faculty; Post-Tenure Review And Promotion For Adjunct \(50% Or More Appointments\) And Renewable Term Faculty](#)), as applicable).

Term (1-4) and renewable term faculty are eligible for promotion after six years in rank. Term (1-4) and renewable term Instructors may be promoted to Associate Professor of Instruction and then Professor of Instruction (see [APPENDIX C: Legacy Status And New Department Standards Plan For Probationary Faculty; Post-Tenure Review And Promotion For Adjunct \(50% Or More Appointments\) And Renewable Term Faculty](#)), as applicable).

Eligible adjunct, term (1-4) and renewable term faculty members shall be promoted when they “Meet Expectations” or “Exceed Expectations” in all areas of their assigned duties as documented in the University Guiding Standards and Departmental Standards and Criteria Document. Only after an affirmative judgment as to documented teaching effectiveness has been made can serious consideration be given to an evaluation of scholarship and service (if applicable). Faculty must also “Meet Expectations” or “Exceed Expectations” for the cumulative standards and criteria to be eligible for promotion, as documented in the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document.

Applying for promotion is a personal choice of the adjunct, term (1-4) or renewable term instructor. There shall be no penalty for not applying for promotion when eligible.

Paragraph 3.17c.1 Promotion Salaries

Faculty members who are promoted shall receive salary increases as documented in [Section 9.2](#).

Paragraph 3.17c.2 Other Responsibilities

Associate Instructors and Senior Instructors may serve on the PAC for the purposes of review of faculty below their rank (see [Paragraph 3.4b.1](#)).

Section 3.18 Faculty/Administrators Eligible for Tenure Upon Hire

Well-established faculty or faculty-administrators may be eligible for tenure in a department at the time of hire, as documented in an offer letter. Department heads must submit appropriate materials to the dean and PAC of the designated department for consideration. Department Heads and PACs shall follow regular procedures for promotion, including a vote regarding the tenure recommendation.

Section 3.19 Appeals

An attempt should be made first to resolve the complaint informally through meetings between the faculty member, the faculty member's representative (see Subdivisions [11.6a](#) and [13.8a](#) Representation), department head, dean, Associate Provost for Faculty, and/or PAC chair if the PAC was involved in the review. A faculty member may file an appeal, according to [Chapter 13](#) of the Faculty Handbook. A faculty member may file a petition, according to [Chapter 11](#) of the Faculty Handbook.

Section 3.20 Reporting of Results of Annual and Mid-Year Evaluations

On an annual basis, the Provost or their designee will report the following information to Faculty Leadership:

- (a) Results of Annual Evaluation – By August 15, as practicable
 - a. Frequency of scores (0, 1, 2, 3, 4) by areas (teaching, scholarship, service) broken out by department;
 - b. Frequency of scores by rank (assistant, associate, full) broken out by college;
- (b) Results of Mid-Year Reviews – By April 15, as practicable
 - a. Probationary results (CP, CPD) by PAC, Department Head, Dean, Provost, where applicable – with Years in Rank and Years in Service – broken out by college;
 - b. Tenure and promotion results (T, TD, P, PD) by PAC, Department Head, Dean, Provost – with Years in Rank and Years in Service – broken out by college
 - c. Term (1-4) and Renewable Term evaluation results by PAC, Department Head, Dean, Provost, where applicable – with Years in Rank and Years in Service – broken out by college

Table 3.1a University Guiding Standards: Teaching

Rating	Probationary Faculty Term (1-4) Renewable Term Instructors Assistant Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty, Any Rank w/ a Standard Portfolio Associate Professor of Instruction Professor of Instruction Associate Adjunct Professors Senior Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with an Extended Teaching Portfolio
Meets Expectations	- Teaching reflects rich content knowledge of the discipline. - Teaching fosters critical thinking. Communicates and provides feedback related to instruction to students in a timely manner. Instructional design and delivery contribute to course and program objectives, goals, and/or outcomes. - Course syllabi provide clear and comprehensive information about the course, structure, evaluation methods and course-level student learning outcomes. - Assignments and/or activities used for assessing student work (e.g., projects, exams) contribute to course and program learning goals or outcomes. - Active and meaningful participation in faculty development regarding teaching or learning (e.g., staying abreast of the literature, conferencing, CETL workshops). - Thoughtful self-assessment and reflection on teaching which inform teaching practice (see Subdivision 3.6d).	- Teaching reflects rich content knowledge of the discipline. - Teaching fosters critical thinking. Communicates and provides feedback related to instruction to students in a timely manner. Instructional design and delivery contribute to course and program objectives, goals, and/or outcomes. - Course syllabi provide clear and comprehensive information about the course, structure, and evaluation methods, and course-level student learning outcomes. - Assignments and/or activities used for assessing student work (e.g., projects, exams) contribute to course and program learning goals or outcomes. - Active and meaningful participation in faculty development regarding teaching or learning (e.g., staying abreast of the literature, conferencing, CETL workshops). - Thoughtful self-assessment and reflection on teaching which inform teaching practice.²	- Teaching reflects rich content knowledge of the discipline. - Teaching fosters critical thinking. Communicates and provides feedback related to instruction to students in a timely manner. Instructional design and delivery contribute to course and program objectives, goals, and/or outcomes. - Course syllabi provide clear and comprehensive information about the course, structure, and evaluation methods, and course-level student learning outcomes. - Assignments and/or activities used for assessing student work (e.g., projects, exams) contribute to course and program learning goals or outcomes. - Active and meaningful participation in faculty development, which contributes substantially to teaching practices (e.g., staying abreast of the literature, conferencing, CETL workshops). - Sustained self-assessment and reflection on teaching inform teaching practice and improved teaching and learning.² - Innovation in course design, curriculum development, teaching or learning. Leadership in curriculum or faculty development around teaching or learning. - Sustained engagement with the scholarship of teaching and learning or best practices.

Rating	Probationary Faculty Term (1-4) Renewable Term Instructors Assistant Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty, Any Rank w/ a Standard Portfolio Associate Professor of Instruction Professor of Instruction Associate Adjunct Professors Senior Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with an Extended Teaching Portfolio
Exceeds Expectations	▪ Extensive participation in faculty development, which contributes substantially to teaching practices. ▪ Substantial innovation in course design, curriculum development, teaching or learning. ▪ Substantial leadership in curriculum or faculty development around teaching or learning. ▪ Contributes to the knowledge or practice of pedagogy within the field or university. ▪ Receives substantial student, peer, or disciplinary recognition for teaching excellence or contribution to teaching or curriculum. ▪ Widespread adoption of teaching curriculum or pedagogy out in the field.	▪ Extensive participation in faculty development, which contributes substantially to teaching practices. ▪ Substantial innovation in course design, curriculum development, teaching or learning. ▪ Substantial leadership in curriculum or faculty development around teaching or learning. ▪ Contributes to the knowledge or practice of pedagogy within the field or university. ▪ Receives substantial student, peer, or disciplinary recognition for teaching excellence or contribution to teaching or curriculum. ▪ Widespread adoption of teaching curriculum or pedagogy out in the field.	▪ Extensive leadership in curriculum or faculty development around teaching or learning. ▪ Receives peer recognition for substantial innovation in course design, curriculum development, teaching or learning. ▪ Receives substantial student, peer, or disciplinary recognition for teaching excellence or contribution to teaching or curriculum. ▪ Widespread adoption of teaching curriculum or pedagogy out in the field.
Needs Improvement	▪ Excessive class cancellations or late arrivals. ▪ Instructional design, delivery, or assessment of student work is weak, misaligned with course/program objectives, fails to deliver content knowledge, or fails to foster critical thinking. ▪ No or superficial self-assessment or reflection. ▪ No or inadequate syllabi. ▪ Does not participate in faculty development related to teaching or learning, or fails to use it to inform meaningful pedagogical practices.	▪ Excessive class cancellations or late arrivals. ▪ Instructional design, delivery, or assessment of student work is weak, misaligned with course/program objectives, fails to deliver content knowledge, or fails to foster critical thinking. ▪ No or superficial self-assessment or reflection. ▪ No or inadequate syllabi. ▪ Does not participate in faculty development related to teaching or learning, or fails to use it to inform meaningful pedagogical practices. ▪ Does not participate in faculty development or provide constructive contributions around teaching or learning. ▪ Does not demonstrate any leadership regarding curriculum, teaching, or learning.	▪ Excessive class cancellations or late arrivals. ▪ Instructional design, delivery, or assessment of student work is weak, misaligned with course/program objectives, fails to deliver content knowledge, or fails to foster critical thinking. ▪ No or superficial self-assessment or reflection. ▪ No or inadequate syllabi. ▪ Does not participate in faculty development related to teaching or learning, or fails to use it to inform meaningful pedagogical practices. ▪ Does not demonstrate leadership regarding curriculum, teaching, or learning. ▪ No innovation or experimentation in teaching practices. ▪ Does not engage with the scholarship of teaching and learning or best practices.

Table 3.1b University Guiding Standards: Scholarship (also see [Section 4.3](#), [4.4](#), [4.5](#), and Departmental Standards & Criteria)

Rating	Probationary Faculty	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with Standard Portfolio	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with an Extended Teaching Portfolio
Meets Expectations	- Reflects a rich knowledge of one's field. - Demonstrates methodological, intellectual, or creative rigor. - Demonstrates intellectual or creative independence. - Demonstrates regular and sustained productivity, which has undergone traditional peer review (and/or other forms of peer review as appropriate to the field). - Makes a meaningful contribution or impact through discovery (and/or integration or application as appropriate to the field). - Expectations align with workload, including differentiated portfolios (e.g., course reassignments or reduced service expectations for specialization in scholarship).	- Reflects a rich knowledge of one's field. - Demonstrates methodological, intellectual, or creative rigor. - Demonstrates intellectual or creative independence - Demonstrates regular or sustained productivity, which will lead to peer review as defined in Section 3.8. - Makes a meaningful contribution or impact through discovery, integration, or application. - Expectations align with workload, including differentiated portfolios (e.g., course reassignments or reduced service expectations for specialization in scholarship).	Stays abreast of developments within one's field. - Uses scholarship by self or others to inform teaching. - Engages in some scholarship/creativity activity by: producing scholarship of any type, participating in conferences/productions/performances, using expertise in service, engaging in scholarship-oriented faculty development, submitting grants, or other activity appropriate to one's field.
Exceeds Expectations	Substantial collaboration with students, which results in peer-reviewed products (e.g., articles, conference presentations, exhibits, performances). - Securing a major competitive grant. - Publishing or performing in a very highly regarded venue or with major, lasting impact to the field. - Extremely high or extensive scholarly or creative output. - Receives substantial national peer or disciplinary recognition for scholarly/creative contribution.	Substantial collaboration with students, which results in peer-reviewed products (e.g., articles, conference presentations, exhibits, performances). - Securing a major competitive grant. - Publishing or performing in a very highly regarded venue or with major, lasting impact to the field, university, or community. - Extremely high or extensive scholarly or creative output. - Receives substantial national peer, disciplinary, or community recognition for scholarly/creative contribution.	- Substantial scholarly/creative collaboration with students. - Demonstrates regular or sustained productivity, which has undergone peer review as defined in Section 3.8. - Receives peer, disciplinary, university, or community recognition for scholarly/creative contribution. Routine or sustained scholarly or creative output.
Needs Improvement	- Peer review does not meet criteria. - Lacks rigor. - No or too few peer-reviewed products. - Found to have engaged in research misconduct. - Does not demonstrate any intellectual or creative independence. - Substandard quality.	- Peer review does not meet criteria. - Lacks rigor. - No or too few peer-reviewed products as defined in Section 3.8. - Found to have engaged in research misconduct. - Substandard quality.	- Does not stay abreast of developments within one's field. - Found to have engaged in research misconduct. - Teaching is not informed by scholarship. - No engagement with scholarship.

Table 3.1c University Guiding Standards: Service

Rating	Term (1-4) Instructors Renewable Term Instructors Adjunct Professors of Any Rank (as applicable)	Probationary Faculty Associate Professor of Instruction Professor of Instruction	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank
Meets Expectations	▪ Active participation in service to the department, as specified in offer letter. ▪ Active participation in service to the college, university, discipline, or broader community, as specified in offer letter. ▪ Meaningful contributions to processes or products of service. ▪ Expectations align with workload, including specially assigned differentiated portfolios (e.g., course reassignments for service).	▪ Active participation in service to the department. For term (1-4), renewable term, and adjuncts, as specified in offer letter. ▪ Active participation in service to the college, university, discipline, or broader community. For term (1-4), renewable term, and adjuncts, as specified in offer letter. ▪ Meaningful contributions to processes or products of service. ▪ Service growth over the course of the probationary period for faculty with reduced service expectations at the beginning. ▪ Expectations align with workload, including specially assigned differentiated portfolios (e.g., course reassignments for service).	▪ Active participation in service to the department. ▪ Active participation in service to the college, university, discipline, or broader community. ▪ Meaningful contributions to processes or products of service. ▪ Demonstrates leadership in service. ▪ Expectations align with workload, including specially assigned differentiated portfolios (e.g., course reassignments for service).
Exceeds Expectations	▪ Contributing service above or beyond that specified in offer letter. ▪ Receives substantial peer, disciplinary, or community recognition for service. ▪ Meaningful participation in program review and/or student outcome assessment.	▪ Widespread service or extensive service in multiple areas (may include discipline or broader community). ▪ Demonstrates substantial leadership in service. ▪ Critical and constructive contributions to major service projects. ▪ Substantial mentorship of students or colleagues. ▪ Receives substantial peer, disciplinary, or community recognition for service. ▪ Meaningful participation in program review and/or student outcome assessment.	▪ Sustained widespread service or extensive service in multiple areas. ▪ Demonstrates substantial, sustained leadership in service. ▪ Critical and constructive contributions to major service projects. ▪ Substantial mentorship of students or colleagues. ▪ Receives substantial peer, disciplinary, or community recognition for service. ▪ Meaningful participation in program review and/or student outcome assessment.
Needs Improvement	▪ Weak or no constructive service as specified in offer letter.	▪ Weak or no constructive participation or contributions in department, college, or university service. ▪ Does not grow in service over time.	▪ Weak or not broadly enough participation in service. ▪ Participation is not active or does not contribute meaningfully. ▪ Never or rarely demonstrates leadership.

Table 3.1d University Guiding Standards: Librarianship (for Library Faculty)

Rating	Probationary Faculty Term (1-4) Renewable Term Instructors Assistant Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with a Standard Portfolio Associate Professor of Instruction Professor of Instruction Associate Adjunct Professors Senior Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with an Extended Librarianship Portfolio
Meets Expectations	- Librarianship reflects rich content knowledge of the area of practice (e.g., reference, cataloging, archiving, etc.). - Librarianship fosters information literacy, discovery, and/or access. Creation and provision of information, resources, and services advances critical thinking, scholarly research, and learning in an evolving information landscape. Activities contribute to university and library priorities and goals. - Active and meaningful participation in faculty professional development regarding librarianship and specific area of practice (e.g., staying abreast of the literature, conferencing, webinars, CETL workshops). - Thoughtful self-assessment and reflection on collections and/or services inform professional practice. Collaboration with library and university colleagues and community partners to advance university and library priorities and goals.	- Librarianship reflects rich content knowledge of the area of practice (e.g., reference, cataloging, archiving, etc.). - Librarianship fosters information literacy, discovery, and/or access. Creation and provision of information, resources, and services advances critical thinking, scholarly research, and learning in an evolving information landscape. Activities contribute to university and library priorities and goals. - Active and meaningful participation in faculty professional development regarding librarianship and specific area of practice (e.g., staying abreast of the literature, conferencing, webinars, CETL workshops). - Thoughtful self-assessment and reflection on collections and/or services inform professional practice. Collaboration with library and university colleagues and community partners to advance university and library priorities and goals.	- Librarianship reflects rich content knowledge of the area of practice (e.g., reference, cataloging, archiving, etc.). - Librarianship fosters information literacy, discovery, and/or access. Creation and provision of information, resources, and services advances critical thinking, scholarly research, and learning in an evolving information landscape. Activities contribute to university and library priorities and goals. - Active and meaningful participation in faculty professional development regarding librarianship and specific area of practice (e.g., assisting others in staying abreast of the literature, conferencing, webinars, CETL workshops). - Thoughtful self-assessment and reflection on collections and/or services inform professional practice. Collaboration with library and university colleagues and community partners to advance university and library priorities and goals. Innovation in librarianship. Leadership in librarianship or faculty development within the discipline. - Sustained engagement with the scholarship of librarianship.

Rating	Probationary Faculty Term (1-4) Renewable Term Instructors Assistant Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with a Standard Portfolio Associate Professor of Instruction Professor of Instruction Associate Adjunct Professors Senior Adjunct Professors	Tenured Faculty of Any Rank with an Extended Librarianship Portfolio
Exceeds Expectations	▪ Extensive participation in faculty professional development, which contributes substantially to the practice of librarianship. ▪ Substantial innovation in areas information literacy, discovery, and/or access. ▪ Substantial leadership in area of practice. ▪ Widespread adoption of librarianship practices out in the field. ▪ Receives substantial student, peer, or disciplinary recognition in the practice of librarianship or contribution to the profession.	▪ Extensive participation in faculty professional development, which contributes substantially to the practice of librarianship. ▪ Substantial innovation in areas information literacy, discovery, and/or access. ▪ Substantial leadership in area of practice. ▪ Widespread adoption of librarianship practices out in the field. ▪ Receives substantial student, peer, or disciplinary recognition in the practice of librarianship or contribution to the profession.	▪ Extensive leadership in area of practice. ▪ Receives substantial student, peer, or disciplinary recognition for substantial innovation in areas information literacy, discovery, and/or access. ▪ Receives substantial student, peer, or disciplinary recognition for excellence in librarianship. ▪ Widespread adoption of librarianship practices out in the field.
Needs Improvement	▪ Librarianship is weak. ▪ Limited fostering of information literacy, discovery, and/or access. ▪ Weak contribution to student success, fails to support faculty research, and/or fails to enhance resources and services. ▪ Weak, minimal or no collaboration with library and university colleagues and community partners. ▪ No or superficial self-assessment or reflection. ▪ Minimal or no participation in faculty professional development.	▪ Librarianship is weak. ▪ Limited fostering of information literacy, discovery, and/or access. ▪ Weak contribution to student success, fails to support faculty research, and/or fails to enhance resources and services. ▪ Weak or no collaboration with library and university colleagues and community partners. ▪ No or superficial self-assessment or reflection. ▪ Minimal or no participation in faculty professional development.	▪ Librarianship is weak. ▪ Limited fostering of information literacy, discovery, and/or access. ▪ Minimal or no collaboration with library and university colleagues and community partners. ▪ No or superficial self-assessment or reflection. ▪ Weak or no participation in faculty professional librarianship development. ▪ No faculty development around librarianship. ▪ No leadership around librarianship. ▪ No innovation. ▪ No engagement in the scholarship of librarianship.

Table 3.2 Evaluation Timeline by Role & Responsibilities

Month	PAC	Faculty Member	Department Head	Dean & Provost
September	- PAC Committee Convenes - Fall DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled		- Fall DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled - Sep-Oct: DH & New/Probationary Faculty Goal Setting & Reflection Discussion (<i>Action</i>)	
October / November	Oct-Dec 15: PAC Deliberations (<i>Action</i>)	Oct 15: Materials Due (<i>Action</i>)		
December	Dec 15: PAC Letters Due (<i>Action</i>)			
January		Jan 5: Supplemental Submission Materials Due (<i>Action</i>, Oct 15-Dec 31)		
February	Spring DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled	- Feb 1: Evaluation Materials Due (<i>Non-Action</i>) - Feb 15: DH & Faculty Post-Tenure PIP (<i>if needed</i>)	- Feb 1: DH Letters w/ Merit, Comprehensive Post-Tenure, & Continuance Outcomes Due (<i>as applicable</i>) (<i>Action</i>) - Feb 15: DH & Faculty Post-Tenure PIP (<i>if needed</i>) - Feb-Mar: DH and Faculty Goal Setting & Reflection Discussion recommended to follow the annual review but may be adjusted based on departmental circumstances. - Spring DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled	Provost Retreat & review of 3rd yr & all Promotion/Tenure
March			Mar 1: Renewal & Non-Renewal Notice Due	Mar 1: Dean/Provost Letters Due
April		Apr 30: Request for Promotion & Tenure Due		
May			May 15: Merit Due and Summary Post-Tenure Outcomes to Provost (<i>as applicable</i>)	
June			Jun 25: DH Annual Letters Disseminated	

Table 3.3 Comprehensive Timeline - Calendar Year ³

January	○ Jan 5: Supplemental Submission Materials Due for Action Cases (Oct 15- Dec 31) ○ Mid-Jan: College-level Dean's Retreat to review all promotion and/or tenure action cases within the college
February	○ Feb 1: DH Letters Distributed for Action Cases (letters include as applicable: merit (Subdivision 3.13j), comprehensive post-tenure (Section 3.16), & continuance outcomes (Subdivision 3.13e)) ○ Feb 1: Evaluation Materials Due for Non-Action Cases (Subdivision 3.6b) ○ Feb 15: DH & Faculty Develop Performance Improvement Plan Post-Tenure (<i>if needed</i>) ○ Mid-Feb: Provost Retreat to review all tenure and promotion action cases and third-year reviews ○ Feb-Mar: DH and Non-Action Case Faculty Reflect and Set Goals (recommended to follow the annual review immediately but may be adjusted based on departmental circumstances). (Subdivision 3.13d) ○ Feb-Apr 1: Convene College Review Committees & PACs to revise Standards & Criteria Documents (Section 3.2, 3.3, Subdivision 3.4d) ○ Spring DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled (Subdivision 3.7a)
March	○ Mar 1: Renewal & Non-Renewal Notice Due (term and renewable term) (Subdivision 2.4b, 2.4c.4) ○ Mar 1: Dean/Provost Action Case Letters Due (Subdivisions 3.4e, 3.4f)
April	○ Apr 1: Standards & Criteria and PAC Procedures Documents Due to Dean's Office for Approval (Section 3.2, 3.3) ○ Apr 15: Standards & Criteria and PAC Procedures Due to the Provost's Office for Approval ○ Apr 20: Standards & Criteria Distributed to Faculty ○ Apr 30: Request for Promotion & Tenure Due (Subdivision 3.4a) ○ Apr 30: PAC Chairs/Co-Chairs Selected for Next Academic Year (Paragraph 3.4b.2)
May	○ May 15: Merit Scores Due to the Provost Office (including summary post-tenure bonus for full faculty, Subdivision 3.16g)
June	○ Jun 25: Dissemination of Annual DH Letter for Non-Action cases (including post-tenure summary review as applicable) (Subdivision 3.13e) ○ End of June: Provost Retreat to review all post-tenure review action cases
September	○ PAC Committee Convenes ○ PAC and DH meet with new faculty, action-case faculty, and post-tenure review faculty to review the evaluation process ○ Fall DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled (Subdivision 3.7a) ○ Sep-Oct: DH & New/Probationary Faculty Goal Setting & Reflection Discussion (Subdivision 3.13d)
October	○ Oct 15: Evaluation Materials Due for Action Cases (Subdivision 3.6b)
November	○ Oct-Dec 15: PAC Deliberations for Action Cases
December	○ Dec 15: PAC Reports and Letters Due (Subdivision 3.14c)

³ For all dates on timeline, if the due date falls on a weekend, it shall be alternately on the first business day thereafter.

Table 3.4 Evaluation Timeline by Faculty Type: Calendar Year (January-December)

	<u>Action</u>	<u>Non-Action/Annual</u>
Evaluation Type	Tenure-Track Probationary YR 1 & 2 Term Renewable Term Tenured Seeking Promotion, Adjunct, Renewable Term & Term Seeking Promotion Post Tenure: Comprehensive	Tenured Adjunct Term Years 3+ Post Tenure: Summary
September	- PAC Committee Convenes - Fall DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled - Sep-Oct: DH & New/Probationary Faculty Goal Setting & Reflection Discussion	
October / November	- Oct 15: Evaluation Materials Due - Oct-Dec 15: PAC Deliberations	
December	Dec 15: PAC Reports & Letters Due	
January	Jan 5: Supplemental Submission Materials Due (Oct 15-Dec 31)	
February	- Feb 1: DH Letters w/ Merit, Comprehensive Post-Tenure & Continuance Outcomes Due (<i>as applicable</i>) - Feb 15: DH & Faculty Post-Tenure PIP (<i>if needed</i>) - Spring DH & PAC Teaching Observations Scheduled	- Feb 1: Evaluation Materials Due - Feb-Mar: DH and Faculty Goal Setting & Reflection Discussion recommended to follow the annual review but may be adjusted based on departmental circumstances.
March	- Mar 1: Non-Renewal Notice Due - Mar 1: Dean/Provost Letters Due	Mar 1: Non-Renewal Notice Due
April	Apr 30: Request for Promotion & Tenure Due	Apr 30: Request for Promotion Due
May	May 15: Merit Due to Provost	May 15: Merit Due and Summary Post-Tenure Outcomes to Provost (<i>as applicable</i>)
June		Jun 25: Dissemination of Annual DH Letter, including post-tenure review outcomes (<i>as applicable</i>)

Table 3.5 Adjuncts, Term (1-4), Renewable Term, Probationary and Tenured Faculty Evaluation Process

	BY STUDENTS	BY DEPARTMENT HEAD			BY PAC		
Employment Type & Rank	<u>Student Assessments</u>	<u>Annual Review</u>	<u>Review for Promotion or Tenure, as applicable</u>	<u>Post-Tenure Review</u>	<u>Yearly Review</u>	<u>Review for Promotion or Tenure, as applicable</u>	<u>Post-Tenure Review</u>
Assistant Adjunct Professor (below 50% appointment)	Every class, every semester/term	If the department head chooses, or by request of the adjunct	NA	NA	If the PAC chooses to conduct a yearly review, or by request of the adjunct	NA	NA
Assistant Adjunct Professor (50% or more appointment)	Every class, every semester/term	During 1st year, 6th semester, 12th semester; or sooner if adjunct requests it or "Needs Improvement"	Yes, if applying in the 12th cumulative semester or beyond (50% or more appt.)	NA	If the PAC chooses to conduct a yearly review, or by request of the adjunct	Yes, if applying in the 12th cumulative semester or beyond (50% or more appt.)	NA
Associate Adjunct Professor (12 cumulative semesters of 50% or more appt.)	Every class, every semester/term	6th semester, 12th semester after pro-motion, or sooner if adjunct requests it or "Needs Improvement"	Yes, if applying in the 12th cumulative semester since promotion or beyond (50% or more appt.)	NA	If the PAC chooses to conduct a yearly review, or by request of the adjunct	Yes, if applying in the 12th cumulative semester after promotion (50% or more appt.)	NA
Senior Adjunct Professor (12 additional semesters of 50% or more appt., after the last promotion)	Every class, every semester/term	Every 6 semesters, or sooner if adjunct requests it or "Needs Improvement"	NA	NA	If the PAC chooses to conduct a yearly review, or by request of the adjunct	NA	NA

	BY STUDENTS	BY DEPARTMENT HEAD			BY PAC		
Employment Type & Rank	<u>Student Assessments</u>	<u>Review for Probationary or Annual, as applicable</u>	<u>Review for Promotion or Tenure, as applicable</u>	<u>Post-Tenure Review</u>	<u>Yearly Retention and Continuance Review</u>	<u>Review for Promotion or Tenure, as applicable</u>	<u>Post-Tenure Review</u>
Term (1-4) Faculty (in first two years⁴)	Every class, every semester/term	Feb 1	NA	NA	Yes; yearly in years 1-2 ⁴	NA	NA
Term (1-4) Faculty (after first two years⁴)	Every class, every semester/term	June 25	Feb 1	NA	Yes, if the PAC chooses to conduct a yearly review, by request of the faculty member; or in the year following a "Needs Improvement" rating in any area	Yes, in year 6 or beyond if applying for promotion	NA
Renewable Term Faculty (in first two years⁴)	Every class, every semester/term	Feb 1	NA	NA	Yes; yearly in years 1-2 ⁴	NA	NA
Renewable Term Faculty (after first two years⁴)	Every class, every semester/term	Feb 1	Feb 1	NA	Yes, if the PAC chooses to conduct a yearly review, by request of the faculty member; or in the year following a "Needs Improvement" rating in any area	Yes, in year 6 or beyond if applying for promotion	NA

⁴ Of initial term

	BY STUDENTS	BY DEPARTMENT HEAD			BY PAC		
Employment Type & Rank	<u>Student Assessments</u>	<u>Review for Probationary or Annual, as applicable</u>	<u>Review for Promotion or Tenure, as applicable</u>	<u>Post-Tenure Review</u>	<u>Yearly Retention and Continuance Review</u>	<u>Review for Promotion or Tenure, as applicable</u>	<u>Post-Tenure Review</u>
Probationary Faculty of any rank (tenure track)	Every class, every semester/term	Feb 1	Feb 1	NA	Yes; extensive in year 3	Yes	NA
Tenured Faculty of any rank	Every class, every semester/term	June 25	Feb 1	Summary review in year 6; Comprehensive review if 3 "Needs Improvement" designations during annual reviews or 2 consecutive "Needs Improvement" designations in teaching.	No, or by request of the faculty member	Yes	Yes, Comprehensive Review if requested by faculty member, if 3 "Needs Improvement" designations during annual reviews, or 2 consecutive "Needs Improvement" designations in teaching

CHAPTER FOUR: FACULTY PORTFOLIOS

Section 4.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Chapter is to define UNI's priorities for faculty members' standard portfolios. Faculty at UNI are teacher- or librarian-scholars, whose work life encompasses teaching or librarianship, scholarship⁵, and service. Portfolios reflect the priorities of our faculty and the university, as well as the expectations for evaluating faculty work.

UNI recognizes, values, and prioritizes teaching as a faculty member's primary responsibility. The university also values and rewards scholarship and service when such activities are part of the faculty member's assigned portfolio.

Section 4.1 Definition of Teaching

Teaching is the development, preparation, and delivery of course content, as well as the creation of opportunities for students to develop the skills and attitudes relevant to the discipline and course. Teaching also includes communicating with students in a course in a timely fashion and supervising and evaluating student performance for courses. The standard form of instruction consists of a course offered by an academic department and delivered in a traditional classroom or classroom equivalent setting, such as through distance education.

In general, it is assumed that courses will be taught face-to-face ("in person") unless an alternative approach is approved in advance by the academic department head. Faculty members should discuss their interest in blended or online course delivery with their department head prior to schedule development to ensure the approach is consistent with departmental goals and that students are informed about teaching mode as they register.

All courses scheduled to be taught online are expected to meet university standards, such as Quality Matters (QM) standards, and all courses, regardless of teaching mode, are expected to adhere to the federal definition of the credit hour.

Subdivision 4.1a Non-Standard Teaching Activities

Non-Standard Teaching include activities through which faculty provide instruction and supervise learning experiences outside the traditional classroom. They include but are not limited to: credits such as applied lessons, independent studies, undergraduate research, thesis and dissertation advising, supervision of clinical/field/internship experiences, supervision of labs, and direction of musical ensembles or theatrical productions.

The following requirements must be met for a faculty member to receive credit for a non-standard course:

- Faculty must complete and submit a Non-standard Teaching Application form available on the [Forms Repository](#).
- Faculty must receive approval to teach a non-standard course by their department head and dean before any activity begins.
- Students must be enrolled in a course in order for faculty members to receive appropriate portfolio credit.
- The course must be a requirement for a student's degree program.⁶ Exceptions for special programs, career advancement, or elective credits may be granted by the department head and dean.

⁵ Hereafter "Scholarship" refers to research, creative activity, and other forms of academic scholarly activity.

⁶ Non-standard teaching activities counting toward the faculty portfolio cannot exceed the amount required by the program of study. For example, if the program of study allows students to register for a maximum of 6 credit hours of independent study, the student may only enroll with a faculty member for a maximum of 6 credit hours counting toward non-standard teaching.

Table 4.1a.1 Credit Hour Conversion and Requirements for Non-Standard Teaching

The table below specifies the credit conversion and requirements for typical non-standard teaching assignments.

Type of Teaching	Credit Conversion	Requirements to receive credit
Chairing a doctoral dissertation ⁷	.25 of a credit at the time of successful defense of proposal; .25 at the time of completion	Regular, direct advising; project summary & timeline
Chairing a master's thesis or research paper	.33 of a credit at the time of completion	Regular, direct advising; project summary & timeline
Chairing an undergraduate honors thesis	.25 of a credit at the time of completion	Regular, direct advising; project summary & timeline
Supervision of student readings/independent studies/practicums/student research	.1 to .25 of a credit at the time of completion, based on the credit registered for and scope	Regular, direct advising; syllabus
Additional common non-standard instruction used by departments ⁸	Department specific	Approved by department head, dean, and Provost; syllabus

Paragraph 4.1a.2 Documenting Non-Standard Teaching

Faculty shall document non-standard teaching assignments within their annual evaluation materials.

Paragraph 4.1a.3 Assignment of Non-Standard Teaching Credit

If non-standard teaching is assigned to a faculty member, but does not have a credit conversion documented in Table 4.1a.1 or is inconsistent with the credit conversions in Table 4.1a.1, a faculty member should be directed to complete the [Non-Standard Teaching Application Form](#). The application form shall be submitted to the department with the following documentation: a syllabus or project summary and timeline, the course, name, number and section, number of student(s) expected to enroll, and total number of credits, clock hours per week, and other relevant documents. The application form shall be submitted to the department head with documentation attached and must be approved by the department head and dean before enrolling students. Such agreements shall be documented in a letter of offer or Memorandum of Understanding.

⁷ Serving as committee members is valued and considered service in the faculty member's standard, enhanced teaching, or differentiated portfolios. If someone is serving as a committee member beyond regular committee member duties (for example, as the method's specialist with extensive, regular advising), the faculty member may apply for non-standard teaching credit using the process specified in Paragraph 4.1a.3.

⁸ When a department regularly uses additional types of non-standard instruction not specified in the Table 4.1a.1 (e.g. applied music, theatre assignments, internships, field experiences, studio or lab classes, etc.) to deliver its curriculum as part of a faculty member's teaching portfolio, the department head or school director shall consult with the faculty and receive approval from dean of the college and Provost to develop non-standard conversions equivalent to credits (or portions thereof) to be counted toward a faculty member's teaching portfolio.

A document identifying the formula for non-standard credit conversions (including contact hours or librarianship/desk coverage, if used) and a description of how the conversions were determined shall be distributed to all probationary and tenured faculty members in the relevant academic department or school no later than the last day of the spring semester for the following academic year. The document must be approved in advance of the distribution by the dean and Provost.

Paragraph 4.1a.4 Awarding Non-Standard Teaching Course Releases

If a non-standard teaching activity is compensated monetarily (e.g., through Continuing Ed.), or via other course release agreement, faculty may not also earn credit for it under this policy.

Faculty must request a course release and be rewarded within one year after accumulating sufficient credit unless approved for an extension by the department head and dean. The faculty member and department head should work together to assure that the departments' course offerings are meeting students' curricular needs. Generally, faculty may be granted one 3 credit hour course release in any academic year.

Subdivision 4.1b Teaching Overload

Teaching overload occurs when faculty members are assigned and agree to teach more credit hours than specified by their designated portfolio (see [Sections 4.7](#) and [4.8](#)). Faculty members and department heads are expected to consult with each other regarding overload assignments in order to meet the needs of the students, department, and individual faculty members.

Paragraph 4.1b.1 Compensation

Overload for the purposes of compensation is determined based on the credits worked and having met the requirements specified below.

Type of Teaching	Credit Conversion	Requirements
Teaching an assigned extra course	Specified credit amount	Teaching overload Request through an approved SPC PAF or Memorandum of Understanding
Non-Standard Teaching assigned above load	According to specific provisions in Table 4.1a.1	Teaching overload Request through an approved SPC PAF or Memorandum of Understanding

Compensation for overload teaching shall come in one of two forms (a) course reduction or (b) overload pay at the adjunct rate based on the number of credits of overload. First, faculty members and their department head may agree to assign a future course reduction in the place of overload pay. Such agreements shall be documented in a Memorandum of Understanding between the faculty member and department head, and approved by the dean and Provost or designee before the work begins. In such cases, the assignment may exceed the designated portfolio's credit-hours in a given semester when an equivalent credit-hour reduction is scheduled.

Alternatively, faculty shall be compensated for overload by the end of the academic year at the adjunct rate specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, subject to the provisions of UNI Policy 4.41 Special Compensation and Summer Appointments. Overload compensation is documented in a Memorandum of Understanding and the SPC PAF (Special Compensation Personnel Action Form).

Paragraph 4.1b.2 Assignment of Overload

Teaching an overload is assigned in advance by the department head working with the faculty member with approval by the dean and Provost or designee. A Special Compensation Personnel Action Form (SPC PAF) shall be completed by the department for agreement of the work by the faculty member, and approval by the department head, dean and Provost or designee.

Paragraph 4.1b.3 Documenting Overload Teaching

Faculty shall document overload teaching within their annual evaluation materials.

Paragraph 4.1b.4. Double Counting Teaching Activities

Faculty shall not double count teaching activities, e.g. research papers assigned in an enrolled semester course as part of a faculty member's regular teaching assignment.

Subdivision 4.1c Student/Office Hours

Faculty members are expected to be reasonably available to students by holding student/office hours (hours when faculty are available for students out of class time) or by providing equivalent availability (e.g., electronic availability, such as email, zoom, google hangout, etc.). Faculty members teaching online courses may use timely electronic communication in lieu of student/office hours. In all cases, students should have timely access to a synchronous appointment, if desired. Syllabi must clearly describe student/office hour options for students.

Section 4.2 Definition of Librarianship

Librarianship is the creation and provision of information, resources, and services that advance critical thinking, scholarly research, and learning in an evolving information landscape. This includes, but is not limited to, the provision of reference services, research consultations, and instruction in support of information literacy; the selection, acquisition, organization, preservation, and administration of library collections and other information resources; and supporting sharing of and access to library collections and other information resources.

Section 4.3 Definition of Scholarship

Scholarship refers to those discipline-specific or professional expertise activities that result in a tangible artifact or outcome. Scholarship makes use of the faculty member's professional expertise, and it must be of appropriate quality and be disseminated. The university recognizes, evaluates, and rewards three types of scholarship (Discovery, Integration, Application), which are defined and illustrated below. The definitions include but are not limited to the examples provided. The Departmental Standards and Criteria Document may provide additional specific examples of products or outcomes in order to demonstrate these forms of scholarship. The [Departmental Standards and Criteria Document](#) must be consistent with [Sections 4.4](#) and [4.5](#) of this Chapter and [Chapter 3](#) of this Handbook.

Subdivision 4.3a Discovery

Discovery is the original production or testing of a theory, principle, knowledge, or artistic creation. Examples include a traditional quantitative and/or qualitative data analysis, as well as an artistic or literary artifact (such as a fiction or non-fiction writing, art exhibition, musical composition, or musical/theatrical performance). The university recognizes the scholarship of teaching and learning, such as the evaluation of curricula or pedagogy, as discovery when it produces original knowledge. All discovery scholarship is evaluated within the faculty member's field of expertise through traditional peer review and is publicly disseminated in traditional outlets, such as journals, books, recordings, performances, or refereed exhibitions.

Subdivision 4.3b Integration

Integration is the use of knowledge found within or across disciplines to create an original understanding or insight that reveals larger intellectual patterns. Examples include the writing of a textbook, curating an artistic exhibition, editing an anthology, or integrative work that summarizes or extends what is known about a topic or process. Being awarded a competitive external grant may be considered Integration scholarship. Integration scholarship is peer reviewed and may appear in a variety of outlets (see "Peer Review" in [Chapter 3](#)).

Subdivision 4.3c Application

Application brings discipline-specific knowledge to bear to address a significant issue or problem or to influence a current or future condition. Examples include producing a technical report; performing public policy analysis; creating program, curriculum, or tools that are adopted across the state/nation; evaluating a community-based program; or being awarded a patent. Application scholarship is distinguished from service by the presence of peer review and may appear in a variety of outlets (see "Peer Review" in [Chapter 3](#)).

Subdivision 4.3d Inclusion of External Grants

Particularly if funded, and in line with Departmental Standards and Criteria, external grants would provide partial validation of the scholarship productivity depending upon the proposal's quality, the grant's size, and evidence furnished by the faculty. A grant proposal can lead to a discovery, integration, or application of scholarship outcomes as described in [Subdivisions 4.3a](#), [4.3b](#), and [4.3c](#).

Section 4.4 Scholarship for Probationary Faculty

Probationary faculty are expected to engage in the scholarship of Discovery, including the scholarship of teaching and learning when it produces original knowledge. Some departments may also evaluate and reward peer-reviewed Integration or Application scholarship when consistent with disciplinary expectations and applicable accreditation requirements. Typically, twenty-five percent of a probationary faculty member's portfolio shall be allocated for scholarly or creative work, unless a different portfolio has been assigned to the faculty member.

See [Chapter 3](#) of this Handbook regarding more specific standards and documentation requirements for the purposes of Annual Review, Post-Tenure Review, and promotion.

Section 4.5 Scholarship for Tenured Faculty

Tenured faculty may engage in Discovery, Integration, or Application research within their field of expertise. Each type of scholarship shall be recognized as legitimate for the purposes of Annual Review, Post-Tenure Review, and promotion to full professor when it has undergone peer review that attests to its acceptable quality and meaningful impact. Faculty members are expected to collaborate with their colleagues and department head to ensure their scholarship is consistent with requirements for scholarship for program accreditation. Typically, twenty-five percent of a tenured faculty member's portfolio shall be allocated for scholarly or creative work, unless a different portfolio has been assigned to the faculty member.

See [Chapter 3](#) regarding more specific standards and documentation requirements for the purposes of the Annual Review, Post-Tenure Review, and promotion.

Section 4.6 Definition of Service

Service is recognized as an essential component of UNI's overall portfolio for all faculty members. Tenured, probationary, renewable term, and term (1-4) faculty are expected to engage in service to the university, the profession, and the broader community. These faculty may fully participate and exercise shared governance in the life of the university community through service work. Service to the university occurs at the department, college, or university level. Service to the profession includes work for the faculty member's discipline or disciplinary organizations at the local, regional, national, or international level. Service to the broader community includes those activities that make use of the faculty member's disciplinary expertise with organizations or communities outside of the university or in one's discipline. Examples of service to the broader community include but are not limited to performing program evaluation for a nonprofit organization, using disciplinary expertise to advise a community organization on an initiative, and volunteering on the board of a community organization related to one's disciplinary expertise. Typically, fifteen percent of a probationary or tenured faculty member's portfolio shall be allocated for service. Service obligations are to be shared and fulfilled equitably by all faculty members according to their assigned portfolios. Major impactful service activities, projects or outcomes that are peer reviewed may qualify as Scholarship of Application (see [Subdivision 4.3c](#)).

Subdivision 4.6a Probationary Faculty Service

Whenever possible, the service obligations of probationary faculty shall be reduced in their first two years in order to devote more time to teaching and scholarship. They shall increase service gradually to 15 percent of their portfolio by the time they apply for tenure and promotion.

Section 4.7 Faculty Portfolio

University faculty portfolios are designated according to position type, rank, availability and percentages of effort in teaching, scholarship, and service (see the Faculty Portfolio Summary Table in [Subdivision 4.7a](#) and definitions in [Sections 4.9 to 4.11](#)). Faculty Portfolios do not designate a prescriptive breakdown of work hours dedicated to each category of responsibility but rather guides faculty and administrative priorities. How faculty members utilize their time varies across the week, semester, year, and career, according to discipline, departmental needs, and individual strengths.

Subdivision 4.7a Faculty Portfolio Summary Table

Appointment Type	Rank	Availability	Workload
Probationary	Assistant Professor Associate Professor (not tenured)	Required	<u>Standard Portfolio (probationary)⁹</u> 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course or 60% <i>librarianship</i> 25% <i>scholarship</i> (Discovery scholarship/creative activity; departments may allow additional criteria for Integration and Application as appropriate for their discipline) 15% <i>service</i> = department, college, university, community, and/or discipline with active participation and impact (see Subdivision 4.6a regarding reduced service obligations during the first two years)
Tenured	Instructor	Required	<u>Instructor Portfolio (tenured)</u> 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>service</i> = department, college, university, community, discipline (to be specified in letter of offer; in some instances, this 20% may be split between service and scholarship)
Tenured	Assistant Professor Associate Professor Full Professor	Default	<u>A. Standard Portfolio (tenured)¹⁸</u> 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course or 60% <i>librarianship</i> 25% <i>scholarship</i> (choice of Discovery, Integration, or Application) 15% <i>service</i> = department, college, university, community, and/or discipline, involving leadership and impact
Tenured	Associate Professor Full Professor	Apply	<u>B. Extended Teaching¹⁰ Portfolio (tenured)</u> 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course 5% <i>scholarship</i> (maintenance of scholarly competence) 15% <i>service</i> = department, college, university, community, discipline, involving leadership and impact

⁹ Faculty portfolios shall be flexible across time. See [Subdivision 4.8a](#) (Portfolio Flexibility Options), [Section 4.9](#) (Extended Teaching Portfolios for Tenured Faculty), and [Section 4.12](#) (Overload for Special Projects/Course Reassignments).

¹⁰ Or Librarianship

Appointment Type	Rank	Availability	Portfolio
Term (1-4 years)	Assistant Professor of Instruction		<u>Term Portfolio</u> 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course* 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course* 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course* 20% <i>teaching</i> = 1 3-credit hour course* 20% <i>service</i> = department, college, university, community, discipline (to be specified in letter of offer; in some instances, this 20% may be split between service and scholarship)
Renewable Term	Associate Professor of Instruction		
	Professor of Instruction		
	Clinical Assistant Professor		
	Clinical Associate Professor		
	Clinical Professor		
	Assistant Professor of Practice		
	Associate Professor of Practice		
	Professor of Practice		
Adjunct (temporary)	Assistant Adjunct Professor		<u>Adjunct Faculty (temporary) Portfolio</u> <i>Teaching assignments specified in letter of offer</i>
	Associate Adjunct Professor		
	Senior Adjunct Professor		

Section 4.8 Standard Portfolio for Probationary and Tenured Faculty

The Standard Portfolio of probationary and tenured faculty at UNI reflects the prioritization of teaching. UNI also values scholarship and service. The Standard Portfolio for probationary and tenured faculty is represented by five components spread across teaching, scholarship, and service (see [Section 4.7](#)). Faculty on 10, 11, or 12 month contracts are assigned a portfolio equivalent to one to three additional months according to their official assignments.

Subdivision 4.8a Portfolio Flexibility Options

Though specific percentages are allocated for scholarship and service to indicate the university's Standard Portfolio, upon approval of the department head and dean, differentiated weight may be allocated to scholarship or service responsibilities for the purposes of faculty development. Such an approved portfolio will be for one year at a time with the opportunity to renew for up to one additional year. Upon completion, the faculty member's portfolio returns to the Standard Portfolio. Opportunities in applying for differentiated scholarship and service obligations are available to all faculty members, however, neither scholarship nor service assignment obligations shall drop below 5% in contributions per year.

Differentiated portfolios shall be documented in writing by the department head or dean in a Memorandum of Understanding to the faculty member and placed in the Faculty Evaluation File. Faculty members who receive course releases are required to report such assignments annually as part of annual evaluation materials, including the activities assigned in lieu of teaching. Applications for tenure and promotion should summarily report such assignments as a part of faculty members' overall portfolio. Faculty members are to annually document such portfolios as part of annual evaluation materials. Each Fall, all differentiated portfolios shall be reported by the department head to the Provost and disseminated in a report to Faculty Leadership, deans and department heads.

Section 4.9 Extended Teaching²⁰ Portfolios for Tenured Faculty

Tenured Associate and Full Professors are eligible to apply for an Extended Teaching¹¹ Portfolio with an additional class to teach. Faculty assigned to the Extended Teaching Portfolio are expected to contribute fully to their specified portfolio (see [Section 4.7](#)).

Subdivision 4.9a Tenured Instructors

Tenured Instructors will be assigned to an Instructor Portfolio, unless an alternate assignment has been arranged with the department head, in consultation with the dean, and documented in a letter of offer or Memorandum of Understanding.

Subdivision 4.9b Eligibility

Tenured faculty are eligible to apply for an Extended Teaching Portfolio when they achieve the rank of Associate or Full Professor. Faculty must also have an established record of teaching excellence, service impact, and service leadership. The faculty member's request must also align with departmental and university needs and priorities, as determined by the department head and dean, in order to be approved.

Subdivision 4.9c Extended Teaching Portfolio Application Process

Eligible faculty members who wish to be assigned an Extended Teaching³ Portfolio may apply for an Extended Teaching³ Portfolio. The faculty member will provide a written request to the department head by the end of the fall semester for the following academic year. The department head, in consultation with the dean, will assess whether or not the eligibility criteria have been met, as defined in [Subdivision 4.9b](#) before deciding whether or not to grant the request. If the request is granted, a Memorandum of Understanding will be developed to outline the expectations while the faculty member remains on this differentiated portfolio. The term for an Extended Teaching³ Portfolio is typically 3 years and may be renewed through the application process.

Subdivision 4.9d Maintaining Competence in Scholarship

Faculty with an Extended Teaching³ Portfolio are required to stay abreast of developments within their field and continue to be engaged in their discipline in order to maintain scholarly competence. Faculty may stay engaged in their discipline by producing scholarship, presenting at conferences, reviewing for journals, using their disciplinary expertise in service, engaging in scholarship-oriented faculty development, or submitting grants. This list is not exhaustive. Departments shall develop a list of any additional activities to denote the maintenance of scholarly competence.

Section 4.10 Renewable Term and Term (1-4) Faculty Portfolios

Term (1-4) and renewable term faculty members' predominant assigned portfolio is teaching. They also are expected to perform service and are integrated, full members of the university community.

All teaching assignments and service expectations are to be specified in the faculty member's letter of offer or annual assigned portfolio (see [Section 4.7](#)). In some limited cases, service may be split between service and scholarship, as specified in the faculty member's offer letter or annual workload assignment.

Section 4.11 Adjunct Faculty (temporary) Portfolios

The primary assigned portfolio for adjunct faculty (temporary) is teaching (see [Section 4.7](#)). Teaching assignments are specified in their offer letter and paid per course, as specified in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Any service assignments, beyond those typically associated with teaching courses, are specified in their offer letter and paid per activity or assignment.

Section 4.12 Overload for Special Projects/Course Reassignments

A president, provost, dean, or department head may designate as overload some special, agreed-upon assignments or projects which sufficiently exceed a faculty member's overall portfolio. In such cases, a Course Reassignment (release) may be applied or earned. Alternatively, administrators may compensate faculty by determining the work's credit-hour equivalency. Department heads shall consult with their dean before assigning special projects.

Faculty on a 9 month contract hired to work during the summer months (outside of teaching summer school) shall be compensated according to the assignment.

¹¹ Or Librarianship

The responsibilities, time frame, course reassignment (release), or compensation shall be outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding or letter of offer; or if compensation is granted, requested and approved through a Period Activity Pay (PAP) form.

Section 4.13 Online Education & Individual Studies

This Chapter will not affect the current methods for determining whether or not courses taught through the division of Online Education & Individual Studies are part of a faculty member's teaching load and the method of compensating faculty for teaching courses for the division.

Section 4.14 Modified Duties Assignment

Subdivision 4.14a Definition

A Modified Duties Assignment ("MDA") is a temporary (*i.e.*, one semester or less) reconfiguration of a faculty member's work assignment (*i.e.*, teaching, scholarship and service) in order to accommodate the faculty member's need for a flexible schedule following their return from an FMLA leave. Modified duties may include but are not limited to: research, scholarship, professional service, curriculum development, development of course materials, accreditation and/or certification materials, departmental operation manuals, communication materials, or undergraduate or graduate recruitment materials.

Subdivision 4.14b Compensation

A MDA will maintain the faculty member at 100% workload and 100% of their budgeted salary unless the faculty member agrees to a reduction in workload during the term of the MDA.

Subdivision 4.14c Eligibility

Any faculty member with a probationary, tenured, term (1-4), renewable term, or clinical appointment, is eligible to request to take a MDA during any semester in which the faculty member has been approved for continuous FMLA leave that is expected to exceed five (5) weeks. Alternatively, any tenure-track or tenured faculty member who (a) has been designated as the primary caregiver for a child and (b) takes FMLA leave due to birth, adoption or foster care placement of the child is eligible to request to take a MDA within 12 months of the birth/adoption/placement of the child. The University reserves the right to impose limitations on the number of MDAs that a faculty member may take during their employment with the University.

Subdivision 4.14d Procedure

Eligible faculty interested in a MDA should contact their department head to request a MDA. The department head and dean, in consultation with the Associate Provost for Faculty, will work with the eligible faculty to develop a MDA that meets the needs of the faculty member and the department. The terms of the MDA, if agreeable to the faculty member, department head and dean, will be memorialized in a memorandum of understanding with the faculty member. The department head or dean reserve the right to decline to grant a requested MDA if granting such a request would cause an undue hardship to the department or college (e.g., inability to cover necessary courses), the decision which may be appealed to the Faculty Petition Committee.

Subdivision 4.14e Return Obligation

Faculty on a MDA are expected to follow the modified duties assignment as memorialized in the memorandum of understanding. When the MDA period has ended, the faculty member is required to submit a written report to the department head and dean with evidence of their accomplishments while on a MDA.

Faculty completing a MDA are also required to return to their standard duties for a minimum of two semesters following the MDA. If the faculty member leaves the University before two semesters have passed, the University reserves the right to require the faculty member to pay back any costs associated with the MDA.

Section 4.15 Professional Development Assignment

Subdivision 4.15a Definition

A Professional Development Assignment ("PDA") is a paid semester or academic year assignment awarded to a faculty member to undertake approved programs of study, research, or other professional activity.

Subdivision 4.15b Compensation

A Professional Development Assignment is awarded for one semester at regular salary or for an academic year at fifty percent (50%) of regular salary.

Paragraph 4.15b.1

Insurance and retirement benefits are maintained during the period of a Professional Development Assignment.

Paragraph 4.15b.2

The University may place limits on compensation received for professional services performed during the period of a Professional Development Assignment.

Subdivision 4.15c Eligibility

Paragraph 4.15c.1

Only tenured faculty members are eligible to apply for Professional Development Assignments. A recipient of a Professional Development Assignment is ineligible for a subsequent Professional Development Assignment during the six academic years of active service following an award. A faculty member who receives a Professional Development Assignment is ineligible to receive a Summer Fellowship during the subsequent summer.

Subdivision 4.15d Service or Financial Obligation

Paragraph 4.15d.1

Pursuant to state law and Board policy, the recipient of a Professional Development Assignment agrees to return to full-time employment for a period of not less than two years following the year of the award.

Paragraph 4.15d.2

Failure to meet the conditions of [Paragraph 4.15d.1](#) obligates the faculty member to pay the University an amount equal to all salaries and benefits received during the period of the assignment. If the faculty member returns for part of the requisite period the payback shall be adjusted pro rata.

Paragraph 4.15d.3

Every faculty member while on Professional Development Assignment shall be considered to be in regular full-time employment in the position from which the assignment is being taken during the period of the assignment, for the purpose of determining the faculty member's length of service.

Subdivision 4.15e Procedure

Paragraph 4.15e.1

A request for a Professional Development Assignment must be submitted no later than the 2nd week in September preceding the academic year in which the proposed assignment will be taken.

Paragraph 4.15e.2

A recipient must follow the program proposed in the Professional Development Assignment application unless a variance is approved by the Professional Development Assignment Committee, subject to concurrence by the Provost.

Paragraph 4.15e.3

Evaluation of applications for Professional Development Assignments will be carried out by a faculty committee chaired by the Provost or designee without vote. Recommendations of the committee will be subject to approval by the President and the Board of Regents.

Section 4.16 Summer Research Fellowships

The university shall allocate funds for Summer Research Fellowships each year.

Subdivision 4.16a Eligibility

Fellowships will be available to any full-time tenured or tenure-track faculty with a current appointment, with preference given to probationary faculty. All else being comparable, preference

will also be given to research/projects that include working with students. Recipients may not receive a Summer Research Fellowship in consecutive years. A faculty member who receives a Professional Development Assignment is ineligible to receive a Summer Fellowship during the subsequent summer (this is a change from being ineligible the summer before and after).

Subdivision 4.16b Format

The Summer Research Fellowships shall consist of a four-week period during the months of May, June, or July (as budget is available). The details concerning application guidelines and requirements will be found on the Division of Graduate Studies website.

Subdivision 4.16c Compensation

During the Summer Research Fellowship period, recipients generally cannot hold another assignment or receive additional compensation from the university. However, recipients may receive compensation from other sources up to a total amount equal to their standard 1/9 salary if the projects funded by other sources also relate to the focus of the Summer Research Fellowship Proposal. Some exceptions may be allowed with the approval of the department head, Graduate Studies, and the Associate Provost for Faculty.

CHAPTER FIVE: PERSONNEL FILES

Section 5.0 Personnel Files

A personnel file will be maintained for each tenured and probationary faculty member. The file shall be located in the office of the dean of the faculty member's college unless otherwise determined by the University. If a change in location is determined, faculty members and the Faculty Leadership shall be notified in writing of the changed location.

Section 5.1 Right to Review

Each faculty member shall have the right to review the contents of their personnel file during regular working hours, or at such other time as mutually agreed on with the dean of the college. The review will take place in the presence of the dean of the college or their designee. Excluded from the review will be employment credentials, which are not designated by their source as available to be reviewed by the candidate.

Section 5.2 Right to Respond

The faculty member shall have the right to respond to all materials contained in their file. Such responses shall be included in the same folder as the related report and become part of the file.

Section 5.3 File Material Removal

A faculty member may request in writing removal of any item in the file. Such request for removal must be received within one year of placement of the item in the file. The written request shall also contain a rationale for the requested removal. If the dean and Provost agree, the item shall be removed from the personnel file. If the dean and Provost deny the request for removal, they will notify the faculty member in writing within thirty (30) days from the date of the written request including reason for the denial. For purposes of this section, days shall mean class days during the regular academic year.

Section 5.4 Notice of Complaint

Any complaints directed toward a faculty member, which are placed in their personnel file shall be called promptly to the faculty member's attention in writing and identified as being added to the file.

Section 5.5 Right to Copies

The faculty member shall have the right to copies of the contents of the file at their expense at the rate of five cents (\$.05) per page.

CHAPTER SIX: FACULTY REDUCTION

Section 6.0 Attrition

When a faculty reduction occurs, it shall be accomplished through attrition wherever possible.

Section 6.1 Notice

Prior to informing any faculty member of layoff, the University shall notify Faculty Leadership of the possible layoff(s) and shall give Faculty Leadership reasonable time to consult with the University.

Section 6.2 Definition

"Program area," for the purposes of specific implementation of this Chapter, is a related cluster of credit-bearing courses that constitute a coherent body of study within a discipline or set of related disciplines that lead to a degree. All faculty members shall be notified of their program area assignments on or before October 1 of each year. If a faculty member does not receive notification on or before October 1, the faculty member will remain in the program area assigned in their most recent notification.

Faculty members who are part of the UNI Rod Library employed as library faculty shall be notified that their program area assignment is "Library Services," unless library faculty become attached to a degree program, at which time that degree program shall become their program area assignment.

Section 6.3 Order of Reduction

In the event that a staff reduction occurs, the University shall lay off faculty members in accordance with the following standards:

Subdivision 6.3a Tenured Faculty

A faculty member with tenure shall not be laid off as long as a probationary, temporary, term (1-4), renewable term, or clinical faculty member remains in the program area where the layoff occurs.

Subdivision 6.3b Probationary Faculty

Full-time probationary faculty members shall not be laid off as long as temporary, term (1-4), renewable term, and clinical faculty members remain in the program area where the layoff occurs. When this clause is used by the University, the University shall provide the appropriate seniority list to implement this clause.

Subdivision 6.3c Criteria for Reduction - Nontenured

In determining which nontenured faculty member in the program area where the layoff occurs is to be laid off, the following criteria are to be used:

Paragraph 6.3c.1

Total professional employment experience with the University.

Paragraph 6.3c.2

Total professional employment experience in other higher-education institutions.

Paragraph 6.3c.3

Educational preparation, post-graduate training, and employment experience.

Paragraph 6.3c.4

Relative skill, ability, and performance as determined through the evaluation procedure provided in this Faculty Handbook.

Paragraph 6.3c.5

Affirmative action laws.

Paragraph 6.3c.6

The program area in which the layoff occurs.

Subdivision 6.3d Tenured Faculty – Order of Layoff

Layoffs of tenured faculty members in a program area shall be made in inverse order of number of years of service on this faculty. When this clause is used by the University, the University shall provide the appropriate seniority list to implement this clause.

Subdivision 6.3e Tenured Faculty – Transfer

When a tenured faculty member is subject to layoff, she/he shall be eligible to transfer to any vacant faculty position at the University for which the faculty member possesses the necessary educational preparation, professional qualifications, and the appropriate terminal degree under current standards.

Section 6.4 Recall

Faculty members laid off shall be eligible for recall at the same tenure and rank that had been accumulated at the time of layoff.

Subdivision 6.4a Probationary Faculty

Any probationary faculty member who has been laid off due to retrenchment shall be placed on a recall list for three (3) years and shall be recalled for faculty positions at the University for which the faculty member possesses the necessary educational preparation and professional qualifications.

Subdivision 6.4b Tenured Faculty

Any tenured faculty member shall be continued on the recall list indefinitely, upon request to be renewed annually after the third (3rd) year, and shall be recalled for faculty positions at the University for which the faculty member possesses the necessary educational preparation and professional qualifications.

Subdivision 6.4c Recall Order

Faculty members qualified under [Subdivisions 6.3a](#) and [6.3b](#) shall be recalled in inverse order of layoff.

Subdivision 6.4d Hiring Restrictions

No new faculty member shall be hired for a teaching position in the same program area so long as the laid-off faculty member qualified under [Subdivisions 6.3a](#) and [6.3b](#) retains recall rights.

Subdivision 6.4e Notification

The employer shall notify each employee laid off, pursuant to this Chapter, of vacant faculty positions at the University as such vacancies occur. Notice shall be given by certified mail, return receipt requested. Faculty Leadership also shall be informed of vacancies.

Subdivision 6.4f Current Address

The Provost shall be kept informed by the terminated employee of current addresses, telephone numbers, interest in recall, and areas in which the faculty member claims qualification.

Section 6.5 Vacancies

When a vacancy occurs within sixty (60) days of the start of a semester, the faculty member may decline the recall while retaining all recall rights for the future.

Subdivision 6.5a Recall Notice

When accepting recall under this Section, the faculty member shall contact the Office of the Provost for assignment within twelve (12) days of the date the recall notice is delivered. Such notice shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested.

Subdivision 6.5b Failure to Report

Failure, after acceptance of recall under this Section, to report for work as specified in the assignment or within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of recall, whichever is later, shall result in loss of recall rights.

Subdivision 6.5c Failure to Respond

Failure to respond to recall under this Section within twelve (12) days of receipt thereof shall constitute a declining of the recall.

Section 6.6 Procedures for Recall

The procedures of this Section apply when notice of recall is sent to a faculty member at least sixty-one (61) days in advance of the beginning of the semester in which the vacancy is to be filled.

Subdivision 6.6a Vacancy Notice

When a vacancy occurs, each eligible faculty member may be sent a vacancy notice, which shall include the number of faculty having higher priority for recall for that vacancy.

Subdivision 6.6b Failure to Accept

A faculty member on a recall list who receives notice of recall and who does not accept the recall within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the notice of the vacancy or twelve (12) days of the notice of recall, whichever is later, shall lose recall rights.

Subdivision 6.6c Failure to Report

A faculty member on recall list who accepts recall and who does not report for work on the first (1st) day of the specified semester shall lose recall rights.

Section 6.7 Temporary Replacements

When a vacancy occurs during or within ten (10) days of the start of a semester or summer term, the University may employ a temporary instructor for the balance of that term.

Section 6.8 Days Defined

In all instances in which “days” is specified in this Chapter, the term refers to calendar days.

CHAPTER SEVEN: SUMMER / WINTER EMPLOYMENT

Section 7.0 Compensation

Summer compensation for full-time employment for teaching, research, professional service, or any combination thereof shall be 1/27th of the faculty member's nine-month academic year salary for each semester credit hour taught.

Subdivision 7.0a Low-Enrolled Summer or Winter Term Courses Compensation

In the event a summer or winter term course is deemed to be under enrolled, the faculty member may elect to teach the course with an alternate compensation method. In such cases, faculty will be paid based on a per-student basis at 65% of tuition generated at the appropriate tuition rate up to a maximum of 1/27th of the faculty member's nine-month salary (or the part-time rate for adjunct faculty) for each credit hour. With the approval of the cognizant relevant dean, this compensation approach may also be applied to non-traditional courses (such as applied music, independent study, etc.). At the time in which the faculty member has to make a decision on whether to offer a course, the faculty member will be guaranteed a minimum salary based on the enrollment at that time.

Section 7.1 Assignment

Work assignments will be made by the employer. Part-time assignments during any part of the summer session period may be made.

Section 7.2 Notice of Appointment

No less than ninety percent (90%) of full-time and part-time summer appointments shall be made by memorandum of appointment before April 30 for the May term and May 15 for the June and July terms, but may be earlier if budget schedules permit. No more than ten percent (10%) of the total of all summer school courses in all summer school sessions within any college may be assigned specifically to "staff." Later appointments may be made, if agreed by the employee and employer, in the case of positions for which the availability of funds is not known until a later date.

Section 7.3 Study Abroad Travel Expenses and Compensation

The University shall pay faculty members' travel expenses related to international study abroad teaching. Compensation for study abroad teaching shall be no less than the part-time rate.

CHAPTER EIGHT: TIME OFF AND LEAVES

This chapter provides information on time off and leave-related benefits specific to faculty. For additional information and a full description of all benefits, refer to <https://hrs.uni.edu/your-benefits/time-and-leave>. Also see [University Policy 4.57 Sick Time](#) and [University Policy 4.16 Extra Income Compensation](#).

Section 8.0 Absence Requests

Sick time off is granted with regular pay for the eligible faculty member's time away from work obligations in accordance with the provisions outlined in this chapter.

Subdivision 8.0a Approval

All absences covered under this Chapter, unless otherwise noted, require the approvals set forth through an absence request within the UNI Works system which must be completed in its entirety, except in emergencies, unusual circumstances, or as otherwise provided in this Chapter, at least five (5) class days prior to the absence.

Subdivision 8.0b Record

The University will maintain a record of accumulated sick time for each faculty member and each eligible faculty member. Each eligible faculty member has access to view the amount earned and used.

Subdivision 8.0c Accrual

On the first (1st) day of August and the first (1st) day of January, seven and one-half (7½) days (60 hours) will be added to the accrued sick time available balance for each eligible faculty member holding a full-time appointment. Sick time accrual will be prorated for faculty serving less than full-time.

Paragraph 8.0c.1

Fractional credit, to the nearest hour, will be credited to each eligible member on a fractional appointment. If the faculty member's first (1st) working day is earlier than August 1st or January 1st, the seven and one-half (7½) days (60 hours) will be credited on such first (1st) working day.

Sick time shall not accrue during an unpaid leave of absence.

Paragraph 8.0c.2

The maximum accumulated sick time credit shall be one hundred twenty (120) days (960 hours).

Subdivision 8.0d Eligibility

Sick time accruals are granted to all probationary (tenure track), tenured, term (1-4), renewable term, or clinical faculty who are currently 50% FTE or greater. In addition, temporary faculty who currently are 25% FTE or greater and were also 25% FTE or greater in the prior academic semester will accrue sick time.

Paragraph 8.0d.1

Paid sick time will not be made to a member of the faculty during an academic period in which the faculty member does not hold a paid appointment.

Subdivision 8.0e Sick Time Bank

A sick time bank with five hundred fifty (550) days is established July 1 each year for use by eligible faculty. The sick time bank does not accumulate from year to year but begins with each fiscal year with five hundred fifty (550) days.

Paragraph 8.0e.1

A faculty member may use time from the bank; however, the use of sick time off from the bank shall be limited to faculty members who have used all of their available accrued sick time, have not yet met the elimination period for long-term disability, and suffer from serious and/or chronic or long-term illness. Sick bank time off bank may not be used during a short-term illness or short-term disability.

Subdivision 8.0f Deductions

Faculty members should submit an absence request for sick time off in UNI Works on any day they miss classes or other University obligations or are unable to perform work obligations for half or more of a day due to injury, illness, or medical appointments. A faculty member's sick time account will be charged a maximum of five (5) days (40 hours) in any given week.

Paragraph 8.0f.1

A faculty member taking time off to care for a family member should submit an absence request for "Family Caregiving" UNI Works. See section [Subdivision 8.1g](#) Family Caregiving Leave.

Subdivision 8.0g Compensation

Compensation during use of paid sick time will be equal to regular compensation less the amount the faculty member receives from disability benefits and/or Workers' Compensation.

Section 8.1 Other Leaves

The University provides all employees with leaves required by the Code of Iowa and University Policy, including [4.58](#) Military Leave, [4.59](#) Court and Jury Service Leave, [4.60](#) Voting Leave, [4.49](#) Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA), 70A.24 Paid Parental Leave as amended, and [4.61](#) Blood, Bone Marrow, and Living Organ Donation Leave.

Subdivision 8.1a Short-term Leaves

The University may grant paid, short-term leaves of one week or less for faculty members to be absent from campus duties for educational and research purposes, conferences, and other professional activities.

Paragraph 8.1a.1

Temporary (adjunct) faculty who are not part of the faculty bargaining unit may be granted short-term leaves, including those for illness.

Paragraph 8.1a.2

The University may grant short-term paid bereavement leaves for any faculty member.

Subdivision 8.1b Long-term Leaves

The University may grant paid or unpaid leaves of up to one (1) calendar year to carry out research/ scholarly work/ creative work, and/or educational activities supported under grants, contracts, fellowships, or University research awards. The University, at its discretion, may renew such a leave.

Subdivision 8.1c Professional Leaves

Faculty members may be granted paid or unpaid leaves of absence for professional reasons with the University's consent.

Subdivision 8.1d Faculty Leadership Leave

To fulfill their duties, the Chair of the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Chair, and the President of United Faculty will receive a one course release per semester, funded by the Provost.

Subdivision 8.1e Family Caregiving Leave**Paragraph 8.1e.1 Paid Family Caregiving Leave**

Family caregiving leave is the portion of a faculty member's accrued sick time that may be used following the faculty member's birth/adoption of a child or to care for the faculty member's spouse, child, domestic partner, or parent with an injury or illness. A faculty member may use up to fifteen (15) days (120 hours) of family caregiving leave per academic year. Additional paid time off may be available for parents for the birth or adoption of a child through FMLA Policy 4.49.

Paragraph 8.1e.2 Unpaid Family Caregiving Leave

A faculty member shall be granted an unpaid leave of absence, for a period not to exceed one semester, when a faculty member becomes a parent through childbirth or adoption of a child of less than 13 years of age. The University shall not be obligated to grant the leave to more than one parent if both parents are employed by the University. To be eligible for

this leave, a faculty member must provide 60 calendar days written notice whenever practicable.

Section 8.2 Leave Related Benefits

Subdivision 8.2a Reimbursements

Reimbursement of expenses under this Chapter is contingent upon the timely filing of an absence request through the UNI Works form and approval of expenses.

Subdivision 8.2b Travel and Related Expenses

The University recognizes and supports faculty travel to fulfill responsibilities related to teaching, research and service. Reimbursement for travel shall follow departmental and college procedures consistent with University Policy. Absences related to university-sponsored travel require a Travel Request initiated through the Office of Business Operations Service Hub.

Subdivision 8.2c Fringe Benefits During Leaves

Any faculty member on paid leave shall receive regular fringe benefits. Any faculty member on unpaid leave shall have the option of making contributions sufficient to maintain full and continuous coverage on any or all fringe benefits during the time of the leave, subject to regulations set by the carrier.

CHAPTER NINE: SALARIES

Section 9.0 Salaries

Faculty salaries are set in the appointment letter with any base wage increases provided for by the collective bargaining agreement between the Iowa Board of Regents, State of Iowa and United Faculty.

Section 9.1 Salary Payments

Faculty members on regular academic year appointment shall be paid, at the option of the faculty member, in ten (10) or twelve (12) equal installments at the end of each month beginning in August or July respectively. A faculty member shall be paid at the previously designated option unless the faculty member notifies the University in writing of a change prior to May 15 preceding the academic year.

Section 9.2 Promotions

Every faculty member promoted in rank shall receive at least three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to Assistant Professor; three thousand seven hundred dollars (\$3,700) to Associate Professor; and four thousand four hundred dollars (\$4,400) to Professor in addition to any across-the-board and incremental increases provided for by the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Every term (1-4) or renewable term Instructor promoted in rank shall receive three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to Associate Professor of Instruction; and three thousand seven hundred dollars (\$3,700) to Professor of Instruction in addition to any across-the-board and incremental increases provided for by the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Every Assistant Adjunct Professor with a 50% or more appointment promoted in rank shall receive \$100 per credit hour above the temporary (adjunct) rate provided in the applicable collective bargaining agreement as Associate Adjunct Professor, or \$225 per credit hour above the temporary (adjunct) rate provided in the applicable collective bargaining agreement as Senior Adjunct Professor.

Section 9.3 Post-Tenure Rewards

The University shall make every effort to reward tenured full professors for consistently outstanding performance as assessed in the Post-Tenure Review process. The award is not a salary adjustment; it is a one-time cash bonus. Tenured associate professors are rewarded for professional excellence via the salary adjustment that accompanies successful promotion to full professor.

Subdivision 9.3a Eligibility and Awards

Tenured full professors completing a Summary Review are eligible to receive a Post-Tenure Review award, once every six years, if they received "Meets Expectations" or "Exceeds Expectations" in teaching*, scholarship, and service in all Annual Reviews during the post-tenure review period. Faculty members receiving "Needs Improvement" in any annual review during the post-tenure review period, in any of the three evaluation areas, are ineligible for a post-tenure review award.

The amount of the award will be announced by April 30 for the next academic year.

*or librarianship

CHAPTER TEN: INSURANCE

Section 10.0 Description of Benefits

It is the University's intention to provide for all eligible faculty members, high quality coverage to promote faculty recruitment and retention. The insurance contracts established from time to time by the University shall govern all claims. Such insurance contracts shall be available for inspection through Human Resource Services.

Section 10.1 Group Life Insurance

Subdivision 10.1a Life Insurance

The University will provide for all eligible faculty members life insurance.

Subdivision 10.1b Cost of Insurance

The cost of the insurance shall be paid by the University.

Subdivision 10.1c Benefits Eligibility

Eligible faculty members, as used in this Section, are those who hold a term (1-4), renewable term, probationary, clinical practitioner, or tenure appointment involving service of half-time or greater for a period of at least nine (9) months (an academic year).

Section 10.2 Long Term Disability

Subdivision 10.2a Long Term Disability Insurance

The University will provide for all eligible faculty members group long term disability insurance. If a faculty member becomes disabled under the terms of the Group Policy due to sickness, injury, or pregnancy this benefit provides monthly payment. If approved for disability, the participant's income will generally be 66 2/3% of their annual budgeted salary at the time they are approved for disability. Under this program, TIAA premiums are continued in force for as long as the disability income is approved. The benefit will also reimburse participants who elect Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) coverage under the University's sponsored group medical insurance plan. Participants will be reimbursed for actual incurred monthly medical premiums expenses, not to exceed \$750 per month for a period of up to twenty-four (24) consecutive months. Faculty considering the need for LTD should contact UNI Human Resources for further plan details and assistance.

Subdivision 10.2b Cost of Insurance

The cost of the insurance shall be paid by the University.

Subdivision 10.2c Eligibility

Eligible faculty members, as used in this Section, are those who hold a term, probationary, or tenure appointment involving service of half-time or greater for a period of at least nine (9) months (an academic year).

Section 10.3 Health Insurance

The University will provide for all eligible faculty members group health insurance benefits in accordance with the following provisions:

Subdivision 10.3a Coverage of Insurance

The University will offer Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) and Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plans to eligible faculty members and their dependents. The University may offer additional health plan options.

Subdivision 10.3b Cost of Insurance

The University will contribute a portion of the total cost of individual and dependent health insurance coverage, and the balance of the premium costs shall be paid by the faculty member by payroll deduction.

Subdivision 10.3c Eligibility

Eligible faculty members, as used in this section, are those who hold a term, probationary, or tenure appointment involving service of half time or greater for a period of at least nine (9) months (an academic year). Temporary unit faculty are eligible for health insurance when their current

assignment is 50% or greater FTE and they also had a 25% or greater FTE assignment in the prior academic semester or prior academic year.

Section 10.4 Dental Insurance

The University will provide for all eligible faculty members group dental insurance benefits in accordance with the following provisions:

Subdivision 10.4a Coverage of Insurance

The University will offer a Dental Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plan to eligible faculty members and their dependents. The University may offer additional dental plan options.

Subdivision 10.4b Cost of Insurance

The University will contribute a portion of the total cost of individual and dependent dental insurance coverage, and the balance of the premium costs shall be paid by the faculty member by payroll deduction.

Subdivision 10.4c Eligibility

Eligible faculty members, as used in this section, are those who hold a term, probationary, or tenure appointment involving service of half time or greater for a period of at least nine (9) months (an academic year). Temporary unit faculty are eligible for health insurance when their current assignment is 50% or greater FTE and they also had a 25% or greater FTE assignment in the prior academic semester or prior academic year.

Section 10.5 Pre-tax Benefits

Subdivision 10.5a Payroll Reduction Plan for Insurance

The University will provide a payroll reduction plan (consistent with Internal Revenue Service Code Section 125 and Internal Revenue regulations) through which faculty members may elect, during a designated annual enrollment period, to pay their share of the health and dental premiums with pre-tax rather than post-tax salary dollars.

Subdivision 10.5b Payroll Reduction Plan for Dependent Care

The University will provide a payroll reduction program (consistent with Internal Revenue Code Section 129 and Internal Revenue Service regulations) through which faculty members may elect to make a pre-tax reduction in wages which will be paid to an account from which allowable dependent care expenses will be reimbursed.

Subdivision 10.5c Payroll Reduction Plan for Medical Expenses

The University will provide a payroll reduction program (consistent with the Internal Revenue Code and Internal Revenue Service regulation) through which faculty members may elect to make a pre-tax reduction in wages which will be paid to an account from which allowable medical expenses will be reimbursed.

Subdivision 10.5d Available Benefits

Prior to the implementation dates of the salary reduction programs the University shall provide written information and employee meetings to provide employees with information concerning available benefits for those employees choosing to enroll in such programs.

Section 10.6 Open Enrollment Period - Health and Dental

The University will provide a thirty (30) calendar day open enrollment and change period for health and dental insurance to be held annually during the Fall semester.

Section 10.7 Eligibility of Surviving Spouse/Domestic Partner

Should a faculty member who has dependent health and dental coverage become deceased while covered under the provisions of this Section, the University may allow the surviving spouse/domestic partner to continue in the group health and dental program provided that the surviving spouse/domestic partner pays the full cost of the monthly premium(s).

Section 10.8 Domestic Partner

A domestic partner shall be eligible for participation in the group health and dental insurance plans. University contribution towards the premium payment for coverage shall be the same as it is for a spouse/dependent(s).

Section 10.9 Faculty Consultation

Changes in coverage, contribution rates, and eligibility provisions will be determined by the University in consultation with the Benefits Advisory Committee.

CHAPTER ELEVEN: FACULTY PETITIONS

Section 11.0 Preamble

The procedures in this Chapter are intended to provide a fair internal process for resolving disputes that arise relating to the interpretation and implementation of the provisions of this Faculty Handbook and any formally adopted university, college, department, or PAC policy/procedure. The procedures discussed in this Chapter are intended to provide, to the maximum extent possible, an informal mechanism for addressing such disputes. The procedures contained in this Chapter are not to be used to challenge the desirability of policies and procedures provided by this Faculty Handbook or any formally adopted university, college, department, or PAC policy/procedure.

Section 11.1 Scope

A “Faculty Petition” for purposes of this Chapter is an allegation by a faculty member that there has been a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of any provision of this Faculty Handbook or any formally adopted University, College, department, or PAC policy/procedure, except as noted below.

A “Faculty Petition” shall not include any of the following, except as noted below:

- (a) Matters subject to the grievance/appeal procedures of [Chapter 13](#) of this Faculty Handbook, which shall be the exclusive basis for addressing such matters;
- (b) Any challenge to the desirability of policies or procedures contained in this Faculty Handbook or any university, college, department, or PAC policy/procedure, which may be raised with the Faculty Senate;
- (c) Matters for which the applicable procedures are expressly provided for by University policy, including [UNI Policy 3.03](#) (Personal Conduct), [UNI Policy 13.13](#) (Policy on Research Misconduct), [UNI Policy 13.18](#) (Alcohol and Drugs), and [UNI Policy 13.19](#) (Retaliation and Misconduct Reporting), which shall be the exclusive basis for addressing alleged violations of such policies; or
- (d) Matters alleging violations of anti-discrimination policies, including [UNI Policy 13.02](#) (Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct); [UNI Policy 13.03](#) (Equal Opportunity), and [UNI Policy 13.15](#) (Campus Accessibility and Accommodations of Disabilities), which shall be the exclusive basis for addressing alleged violations of such policies

If a faculty member has exhausted the procedures in (c) and/or (d) above and no discipline has been imposed, then the faculty member may pursue a Faculty Petition limited to violations or misapplications of appropriate policies and procedures. If any sanctions have been imposed, then the faculty member may only pursue a faculty grievance according to [Chapter 13](#).

Section 11.2 Informal Resolution of Faculty Petitions

A faculty member who wishes to dispute the application of this Faculty Handbook or a formally adopted university, college, department, or PAC policy/procedure should first seek an informal resolution with the appropriate person or office before pursuing the procedures discussed in Section 11.3 below. The formal procedures of Section 11.3 are to be used only after attempts to reach informal resolution have failed or where, due to the nature of the concern, the Faculty Petition cannot reasonably be resolved through informal channels.

Section 11.3 Procedures for Formal Resolution of Faculty Petitions

Subdivision 11.3a Faculty Petition Committee

After seeking informal resolution with the appropriate person or office to the extent possible, a faculty member may share their Faculty Petition with the Faculty Petition Committee (the “FPC”). Membership of the FPC shall include the Chair of the Faculty and three Faculty Senate members designated by the Chair of the Faculty Senate. The Chair of the Faculty shall chair the FPC, with the right to vote. In the spirit of shared governance, the Associate Provost for Faculty and United Faculty Vice President, or their designees, shall be invited to attend FPC meetings when deemed practical and beneficial for shared governance.

Subdivision 11.3b Timeliness of Faculty Petitions

A Faculty Petition must be made to the FPC within sixty (60) days from the date of the occurrence of the alleged violation of the Faculty Handbook or relevant policy/procedure.

Subdivision 11.3c Form of Faculty Petitions

A Faculty Petition should be submitted in writing to the FPC and should include the following: date of alleged violation; policy or Chapter of Faculty Handbook that is alleged to have been violated or misapplied; brief statement of how the policy or Chapter has allegedly been violated or misapplied; brief description of attempts at informal resolution; and desired outcome.

Subdivision 11.3d Meetings of the FPC

Upon presentation of a Faculty Petition to the FPC or one of its members or at the request of an FPC member, the FPC shall convene to discuss the Faculty Petition within fifteen (15) days. To the extent possible, the FPC will attempt to resolve Faculty Petitions during the semester in which the Faculty Petition is filed. Meetings of the FPC shall not be open to the public; however, the FPC may invite persons (including the affected faculty member) to attend the meeting, as deemed necessary by the FPC, to provide information relevant to the resolution of the Faculty Petition. In order to foster candid discussions amongst members of the FPC, no statements made by a member of the FPC during such meetings shall be admissible in any future proceeding, including any arbitration hearing pursuant to the procedures of this Chapter of the Faculty Handbook. Nor may any member of the FPC be compelled to testify at any arbitration or other hearing with respect to the discussions of the FPC or the FPC's attempts to resolve such Faculty Petitions.

Subdivision 11.3e Informal Resolution by FPC

Upon meeting to discuss a Faculty Petition, the FPC shall attempt to resolve the matter. In the event the FPC is able to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of the faculty member, the faculty member shall withdraw their Faculty Petition by delivering written notice to the FPC.

Subdivision 11.3f Recommendation or Referral by the FPC

In the event the FPC is unable to resolve the Faculty Petition informally to the satisfaction of the affected faculty member, the FPC shall make a recommendation to the Provost as to what action, if any, should be taken on the Faculty Petition. Upon making such a recommendation to the Provost, the FPC shall inform the faculty member in writing of the recommendation along with a brief explanation for the FPC's recommendation. In the event the FPC is unable to reach consensus on the interpretation or application of the terms of this Faculty Handbook or any formally adopted university, college, department, or PAC policy/procedure, the FPC may refer the Faculty Petition to the Provost. Upon referring a Faculty Petition to the Provost, the FPC shall inform the faculty member in writing of the referral.

Subdivision 11.3g Briefing on FPC Recommendation or Referral

Upon receiving written notification that the FPC has made a recommendation or referral on a Faculty Petition to the Provost, the faculty member who brought the petition may, within ten (10) days of receiving such notification, submit to the Provost a brief memorandum not to exceed two (2) pages addressing the reasons that he/she believes the Provost should take a certain action on their Faculty Petition.

Subdivision 11.3h Decision by Provost

The Provost shall, within forty-five (45) days of receiving the FPC's recommendation or referral relating to a Faculty Petition, determine what administrative response, if any, shall be taken and advise the faculty member and the FPC, in writing, of the disposition of the Faculty Petition.

Section 11.4 Arbitration of Faculty Petitions

Subdivision 11.4a Nature of Appeal and Time Limits

If the affected faculty member is not satisfied with the Provost's disposition of the Faculty Petition, she/he may file an "intent to appeal to the arbitrator." Such intent to appeal shall be filed with the Office of the Provost within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt of the Provost's disposition of a Faculty Petition. The intent to appeal shall be filed on the Request for Arbitration form, which may be obtained from the Office of the Provost.

Subdivision 11.4b Cost of Arbitration

In those Faculty Petitions in which the faculty member has requested and obtained the assistance of United Faculty in pursuing the matter through arbitration, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and United Faculty. Otherwise, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and the faculty member.

Subdivision 11.4c Selection of Arbitrator

When a faculty member has filed a Request for Arbitration, the Provost and/or designee and the faculty member and/or designee shall, within 14 calendar days, meet to select the arbitrator. If the parties are unable to agree to an arbitrator, the parties shall strike alternately from the permanent panel of arbitrators identified by the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board until one name remains. The person who remains shall be the arbitrator. The parties shall promptly notify the arbitrator of their selection.

Subdivision 11.4d Hearing Proceedings

The arbitrator so selected shall confer with the affected faculty member and the Office of the Provost and hold a hearing promptly. The hearing shall be open except by agreement between the University and the faculty member or if the arbitrator orders the proceedings closed for cause. The faculty member shall present evidence first and shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that there has been a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of any provision of this Faculty Handbook or any formally adopted University, College, department, or PAC policy/procedure subject to a Faculty Petition. The arbitrator shall issue a report not later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the close of the hearing. Such report shall be in writing and shall set forth their findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions on the issue submitted.

Subdivision 11.4e Standard of Review

The standard of review to be applied by the arbitrator shall be whether the affected faculty member has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that there has been a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of any provision of this Faculty Handbook or any formally adopted University, College, department, or PAC policy/procedure subject to a Faculty Petition.

Section 11.5 Disposition of the Arbitrator's Report**Subdivision 11.5a President's Review**

The report of the arbitrator, the Provost's disposition of the Faculty Petition, and the record made in the case, shall be forwarded to the President for review. After reviewing the record, the arbitrator's report, and the Provost's disposition, the President will determine what administrative response, if any, shall be taken. In making such decision, the President will give great weight to the report of the arbitrator. There will be no oral argument before the President, but either party may submit a brief not to exceed four (4) pages in support of the party's position. Such brief shall be submitted within fourteen (14) calendar days of the receipt of the arbitrator's report by the parties. The decision of the President shall be issued within sixty (60) calendar days following receipt of such briefs (or the expiration of time to submit such briefs).

Subdivision 11.5b Acceptance by President

If the President accepts the recommendation of the arbitrator, the President shall notify the parties in writing of their final decision.

Subdivision 11.5c Rejection by President

If the President rejects the recommendation of the arbitrator, the President shall do so in writing, giving reasons for going against the report, which shall constitute the final decision of the University.

Section 11.6 Other Provisions**Subdivision 11.6a Representation**

A faculty member utilizing this procedure may be represented at all stages by a representative of United Faculty when the faculty member elects, in writing, to have United Faculty assist her/him in such proceedings.

Subdivision 11.6b Application of Time Limits

The failure of an employee or United Faculty to act on an appeal under this Chapter within the prescribed time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal under this Chapter. The time limits may

be extended only by written agreement of the faculty member and the University.

Subdivision 11.6c Costs

In those appeals in which the faculty member has requested and obtained the assistance of United Faculty in pursuing such appeal, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and United Faculty. Otherwise, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and the faculty member.

Subdivision 11.6d Election of Forum

If a faculty member files any claim or complaint in any forum other than under this Chapter, then, while the complaint is pending or if it has been adjudicated, the University shall not be required to process the same or a substantially equivalent claim through the procedures of this Chapter.

Subdivision 11.6e Days Defined

If not otherwise noted, days refer to class days. Class days during summer appointments will be counted unless mutually agreed upon by both parties. Class days for faculty not on a summer appointment are not counted except upon mutual agreement.

Subdivision 11.6f Arbitration Hearings

All hearings before the arbitrator under this procedure shall be open except if the parties mutually agree that the proceedings shall be closed, or the arbitrator orders the proceedings closed for cause.

CHAPTER TWELVE: DUE PROCESS & REVIEW OF FACULTY MISCONDUCT CASES

Section 12.0 Preamble

The University of Northern Iowa is committed to academic freedom secured and maintained by shared governance, characterized by collaborative leadership and responsibility. This commitment necessarily requires an engaged faculty that contributes in good faith to maintaining excellence in the university's operations and reputation, including compliance with University policies and procedures. This procedure provides a remedy for violations of these expectations.

Section 12.1 Scope

Subdivision 12.1a

The procedures in this Chapter are intended to provide an appropriate level of academic due process to faculty subject to potential discipline or dismissal as a result of alleged misconduct.

Subdivision 12.1b

The faculty of the University of Northern Iowa expect the highest standard of professional conduct from ourselves and our peers. In the rare event that those expectations are violated, this Chapter provides a means for faculty review of those cases.

Subdivision 12.1c

The procedures contained in this Chapter shall not apply where an applicable law, Board policy, or University policy provides alternative procedures for investigating and responding to specific types of alleged misconduct, including but not limited to [UNI Policy 13.02](#) (Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct) or [UNI Policy 13.13](#) (Research Misconduct). In those cases where these procedures do not apply and major sanctions are imposed, the faculty member may appeal the discipline pursuant to [Chapter 13](#).

Subdivision 12.1d

These procedures shall not apply in cases where a faculty member's employment ends upon the conclusion of their term of appointment pursuant to [Chapter 2](#).

Subdivision 12.1e

These procedures shall not apply to decisions to deny promotion, deny tenure, or terminate or not renew a probationary appointment that are made pursuant to the procedures contained in [Chapter 3](#). Such decisions may be appealed only under the procedures provided for in [Chapter 13](#).

This is not a grievance procedure. [Chapter 13](#) of the Faculty Handbook spells out the procedures for faculty who are unsatisfied with decisions about tenure, promotion, on-renewal, discharge of a probationary faculty member, involuntary transfer, or discipline other than discharge of a probationary or tenured faculty member, including minor or major sanctions as described in this chapter.

Subdivision 12.1f

These procedures shall not justify discipline of faculty for immaterial violations of policy. Faculty shall be disciplined only for acts that affect an important interest of the University (see [Subdivision 12.4a](#)).

Subdivision 12.1g

These procedures also acknowledge a distinction between misconduct and evaluation processes. While evaluation processes may intersect with misconduct procedures, for most purposes the process of evaluation is a separate process unless a major sanction is proposed as a sanction for the Post-Tenure Review process ([Paragraph 3.16e.5](#)).

Section 12.2 Guiding Principles

Subdivision 12.2a

Academic Freedom: The establishment of a procedure for handling misconduct or dismissal cases is an attempt to provide a reasonable guarantee of compliance with standards of academic due process, especially as these are enunciated in the "1940 Statement of Principles of Academic Freedom and Tenure" by the American Association of University Professors and the Association of American Colleges, and promulgated in the "Statement on Procedural Standards in Faculty

Dismissal Proceedings,” adopted by the Council of the American Association of University Professors in November, 1957, and by the Association of American Colleges at its annual meeting in January, 1958 and updated in 1990. As articulated in [UNI Policy 6.10](#), Academic Freedom is recognized as a foundation of the University.

Subdivision 12.2b

Confidentiality: These procedures are designed to serve the best interest of, and to be fair to, both the individual concerned and the university. Within these procedures the importance of a reasonable balance between ensuring adequate process and available resources is acknowledged so as not to overly burden faculty or the institution. In addition, confidentiality is understood as of vital importance and thus, administrators--unless otherwise required by state or federal law--protect the identity of the faculty member accused of misconduct to those who need to know in order to carry out a thorough, competent, and objective proceeding.

Subdivision 12.2c

Conflict of Interest: A faculty member shall recuse themselves from any proceeding when they are a member of the respondent's department or when there is a conflict of interest, in which case the Faculty Handbook Committee will identify a qualified substitute. If a party submits a written objection to any appointed member of the Faculty Hearing Board based on bias or conflict of interest within five working days of receipt of the proposed Faculty Hearing Board membership, the Faculty Handbook Committee will determine whether to replace the challenged member with a qualified substitute.

Subdivision 12.2d

Just Cause: These procedures assume “Just Cause” is the standard for termination for misconduct of a tenured faculty member before the expiration of a term appointment. Termination for faculty misconduct is only appropriate in cases of Just Cause. Just Cause must be established by the administration by a preponderance of evidence standard.

Subdivision 12.2e

Timeliness: Administrators will attempt to resolve any charge of misconduct with the faculty member as early in this process as possible.

Section 12.3 Sanctions

Subdivision 12.3a Major Sanctions

Major sanctions consist of: termination, suspension without pay, reduction in salary, reparations or fines of more than \$2000, or an involuntary reassignment of duties outside of the standard portfolio (see Chapter 4) for a full semester or more. Major sanctions will not be imposed before consultation by the Provost with the Chair of the Faculty and the Faculty Senate Chair.

Subdivision 12.3b Minor Sanctions

Minor sanctions are any sanctions not defined as a “Major Sanction,” and include such actions as a written or verbal reprimand, a reassignment of duties for less than one semester, mandatory training, reparations or fines of less than \$2000, removal of distinguished titles, removal of graduate supervision privileges, or cancellation of graduate faculty status. Minor sanctions will not be imposed before consultation by the Provost with the Chair of the Faculty and the Faculty Senate Chair.

Section 12.4 Addressing Claims of Faculty Misconduct

Subdivision 12.4a

Any individual with a concern that a faculty member has engaged in misconduct should report the concern to the appropriate administrator charged with responsibility for administering a specific university policy (e.g., Title IX officer or research integrity officer) or for an academic unit (e.g., department head, dean, or provost). That administrator is responsible for assessing the situation and, where appropriate, taking administrative action to resolve concerns (If the concern involves alleged conduct that could constitute a violation of the University's Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, and Harassment policy, the administrator must promptly report the matter to the Office of Civil Rights Compliance).

Subdivision 12.4b

Upon receiving a report of alleged faculty misconduct, the administrator will conduct an initial assessment of the report. In the event that an administrator determines in the course of their initial assessment of the report that there is (1) a reasonable basis for investigating the allegations of misconduct and that (2) such allegations, if true, could constitute grounds for imposing disciplinary action, the administrator shall follow the following procedures:

Paragraph 12.4b.1

Provide the respondent faculty member with a written notice of the allegations of misconduct being investigated. Following such notification, the respondent shall be given the opportunity to admit that misconduct occurred and that they are responsible for such misconduct. In the event that a respondent admits responsibility for alleged misconduct, the administrator and the respondent will meet to discuss potential sanctions and will memorialize in writing any agreement as to responsibility and sanctions. If the faculty member admits to having engaged in misconduct but is unable to reach agreement as to the appropriate sanctions, sanctions will be determined as described below.

Paragraph 12.4b.2

In the event that the respondent does not admit to having engaged in any misconduct, the administrator or their designee shall conduct an investigation into the allegations of misconduct. During this investigation, the investigator shall provide the respondent with an opportunity to respond to the allegations, to provide relevant evidence, and to suggest potential witnesses.

Paragraph 12.4b.3

Upon conclusion of their investigation, the administrator or their designee shall provide the respondent with a written notice regarding the findings of the investigation. The respondent shall have the right to respond, in writing, to such investigation findings.

Paragraph 12.4b.4

If there is a finding of misconduct, the administrator or their designee shall provide the respondent with an opportunity to meet with the administrator or their designee prior to imposition of any disciplinary action.

Paragraph 12.4b.5

The administrator shall then consult with the faculty member's dean, who will decide what discipline, if any, shall be implemented.

Paragraph 12.4b.6

In the event the faculty member's dean determines that imposition of a major sanction is appropriate based upon a finding of misconduct, the matter shall be referred to the Provost for determination of the appropriate sanctions.

Paragraph 12.4b.7

The Provost shall review the matter, including the results of the investigation, and determine whether a major sanction is appropriate under the circumstances. In the event the Provost determines that a faculty member shall be subject to a major sanction, the Provost shall consult with the Faculty Chair and Chair of the Faculty Senate. The Provost will then provide the faculty member with a written statement with the major sanction(s) being imposed by the Provost, along with the basis for imposing such sanction(s), and a written notice of the right to request review by a Faculty Hearing Board, as provided in [Paragraph 12.4b.8](#), before imposition of any major sanction(s). The Provost will also provide a copy of this written statement to the Chair of the Faculty and the Faculty Senate Chair.

Paragraph 12.4b.8

The respondent faculty member may request review by a Faculty Hearing Board by filing a request for Faculty Hearing Board review with the Chair of the Faculty, Faculty Senate Chair, and the Provost within 10 class days of receiving a written statement of imposition of major sanctions. In the event such a request is timely filed, the Chair of the Faculty will empanel a Faculty Hearing Board in accordance with [Section 12.7](#). In the event the

respondent faculty member fails to make a request for review within 10 class days of receipt of the written statement of imposition of major sanctions, the Provost may implement the major sanction(s) described in the written statement. Reasonable extensions to the timeline above can be granted by the Provost when classes are not in session or other extenuating circumstances.

Subdivision 12.4c

During all meetings with the administrator or their designee as part of this process, the respondent shall have the right to bring an advisor of their choice, including a lawyer or a representative of United Faculty.

Section 12.5 Interim Action

Subdivision 12.5a

There may be instances in which a faculty member may need to be placed on paid administrative leave or have their duties temporarily reassigned on an interim basis pending investigation of a complaint of misconduct. The Provost may take such interim action only after consulting the Chair of the Faculty and Faculty Senate Chair to confirm that one or more of the following conditions exist:

Paragraph 12.5a.1

There is immediate physical danger to persons or property;

Paragraph 12.5a.2

There is reasonable indication of serious criminal violation;

Paragraph 12.5a.3

There is an immediate health hazard;

Paragraph 12.5a.4

There is immediate need to protect equipment or funds, including federal funds or federal financial assistance;

Paragraph 12.5a.5

There is immediate need to protect the safety or interests of the person(s) making the allegations, of witnesses, or of the subject(s) of the allegations or their collaborators and associates;

Paragraph 12.5a.6

There is a need to preserve evidence or to prevent improper influence of witness testimony;

Paragraph 12.5a.7

There is a need to protect the working or educational environment of affected co-workers or students; or

Paragraph 12.5a.8

There is a need to protect against liability of the University and its employees.

Subdivision 12.5b

Any such interim action taken must be appropriate to the interests protected, and reasonably limited so as not to have an undue damaging effect on the respondent. Any interim action shall not be considered in and of itself a sanction. The faculty member will remain in paid status for the duration of such interim action unless otherwise required by law. The Provost will assist the dean and department head in ensuring that the interim action will have as little effect as possible on the faculty member's reputation and the student learning experience.

Subdivision 12.5c

When any interim action is imposed, the investigation/review process shall be completed as quickly as possible. In the event there is a need to extend the interim action beyond the end of the semester in which the interim action was first implemented, the Provost will consult with the Chair

of the Faculty and Faculty Senate Chair to update them on the status of the investigation/review process and to determine whether there is a good basis for extending the interim action.

Section 12.6 Voluntary Mediation Conference Prior to Faculty Hearing Board Review

Subdivision 12.6a

In cases where a faculty member has requested review by a Faculty Hearing Board, the Provost will review the matter and schedule an informal meeting for the involved parties to discuss the alleged charge of misconduct.

Subdivision 12.6b

The faculty member alleged to have committed a violation of university policy will be invited to a voluntary meeting with the Provost. Included in the informal meeting will be the dean of the college, head of the department, and, when requested by the faculty member, a representative of the United Faculty and/or other advisor of their choice. The Associate Provost for Faculty and University Counsel may also be present. At the meeting, the parties will discuss the issue(s) and work towards resolving the matter through a good faith effort.

The failure of an employee or United Faculty to act on a Faculty Petition under this Chapter within the prescribed time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal under this Chapter. The time limits may be extended only by written agreement of the faculty member and the University.

Subdivision 12.6c

If an agreeable resolution is reached by the parties, all parties shall sign and memorialize the informal agreement which will be maintained in the faculty member's Personnel file, but not in their Faculty Evaluation File. If the informal resolution is not reached, the faculty member may request the Faculty Hearing Process, or the proposed discipline will be enacted.

Section 12.7 Faculty Hearing Process

Subdivision 12.7a Composition of the Faculty Hearing Board

Paragraph 12.7a.1

The Provost will hire an external legal professional to act as Hearing Officer during proceedings. The Hearing Officer will facilitate proceedings according to these provisions and advise the members of the Faculty Hearing Board in carrying out their responsibilities.

Paragraph 12.7a.2

The Provost will make necessary arrangements for a recording or verbatim transcript of proceedings.

Paragraph 12.7a.3

The Faculty Hearing Board will consist of three members. All members of the Faculty Hearing Board will be tenured faculty members. Members will be selected via a majority vote of the Faculty Handbook Committee. It is advisable when selecting faculty members to begin with those who are current or prior members of the Faculty Handbook Committee, have served in some other capacity as an elected faculty officer, or have disciplinary or other expertise as appropriate.

Paragraph 12.7a.4

A faculty member shall recuse themselves from the proceedings when they are a member of the respondent's department or when there is a conflict of interest, in which case the Faculty Handbook Committee will identify a qualified substitute. If a party submits a written objection to any appointed member of the Faculty Hearing Board based on bias or conflict of interest within five working days of receipt of the proposed Faculty Hearing Board membership, the Faculty Handbook Committee will determine whether to replace the challenged member with a qualified substitute.

Paragraph 12.7a.5

The parties may each have the option of one peremptory challenge to strike one selection from the Faculty Hearing Board within five days after receiving the list. The Faculty

Handbook Committee will make additional selections when necessary.

Paragraph 12.7a.6

A hearing date will be set after a Hearing Officer and all members of the Faculty Hearing Board are identified. The hearing shall ordinarily occur within 60 class days after the Faculty Hearing Board selection is finalized. An extension of the hearing date may be requested by any party and may be granted with the agreement of the Hearing Officer and the Faculty Hearing Board.

Subdivision 12.7b Pre-hearing Submission of Evidence

Paragraph 12.7b.1

The purpose of a pre-hearing exchange of evidence is to collect available evidence to inform the Faculty Hearing Board's consideration of the case and for the parties to be adequately informed of all evidence to be presented during the hearing, fostering an expeditious hearing.

Paragraph 12.7b.2

The parties in a hearing are the respondent faculty member and the Provost, or their designee.

Paragraph 12.7b.3

At least 14 class days prior to the hearing date, the parties will provide a list of witnesses and electronic copies of their evidence to the Hearing Officer via email.

Paragraph 12.7b.4

The Hearing Officer will provide all evidence to opposing parties, who will have one week to make any objections to the introduction of such evidence.

Paragraph 12.7b.5

Objections to evidence may be made via a written argument if it is considered irrelevant or unfairly prejudicial.

Paragraph 12.7b.6

The Hearing Officer will make a determination regarding the admissibility of evidence and provide such evidence to the members of the Faculty Hearing Board at least two class days before the hearing.

Subdivision 12.7c Hearing Procedures

Paragraph 12.7c.1

The parties to be heard are the respondent faculty member and the Provost, on behalf of the institution. Both parties may have a representative of their choice to present their case.

Paragraph 12.7c.2

Hearings are private and confidential, and will be conducted in a manner that provides fair treatment to the respondent and Provost, and confidentiality to the extent possible without compromising public health and safety. No participants in a hearing will confer with members of the Faculty Hearing Board outside the hearing regarding the proceedings until they are finished. Members of the Faculty Hearing Board will likewise abstain from discussing the proceedings outside the hearing while proceedings are in progress.

Paragraph 12.7c.3

The Provost bears the burden of proof to establish a preponderance of evidence that the faculty member engaged in misconduct.

Paragraph 12.7c.4

Unless otherwise directed by the Hearing Officer, the order of the presentation of the case shall be:

- A. Opening statement of Provost or their representative
- B. Opening statement of the respondent or their representative
- C. Witnesses and evidence of the Provost

- D. Witnesses and evidence of the respondent
- E. Rebuttal witnesses and other evidence of the Provost
- F. Rebuttal witnesses and other evidence of the respondent
- G. Closing statement of the Provost or their representative
- H. Closing statement of the respondent or their representative

Paragraph 12.7c.5

Formal rules of evidence shall not apply to the hearing and the Faculty Hearing Board may give evidence the appropriate weight based upon its relevance and probative value. The Faculty Hearing Board will not consider evidence that the Hearing Officer deems is irrelevant or unfairly prejudicial or evidence covered by a legally recognized privilege (e.g., attorney-client privilege or physician-patient privilege) unless the person who has the right to assert the privilege waives the privilege.

Paragraph 12.7c.6

Any witness may be questioned by the other party or their representative.

Paragraph 12.7c.7

Any member of the Faculty Hearing Board may also question anyone who is presenting evidence at any time during the proceeding, including a witness. They may also question the parties after both have finished making their cases and have presented their final summary arguments.

Paragraph 12.7c.8

If new evidence is presented, the Hearing Officer, subject to agreement of the Faculty Hearing Board, may grant adjournments in the event a party would be unfairly prejudiced by the inability to investigate the new evidence.

Paragraph 12.7c.9

When the hearing has concluded, the Faculty Hearing Board may proceed to decision promptly, without having the record of the hearing transcribed, where it feels that a just decision can be reached by this means; or it may await the availability of a recording or transcript of the hearing if its decision would be aided thereby. A recording or verbatim transcript will be made available to the Faculty Hearing Board and the parties, on request.

Paragraph 12.7c.10

The Faculty Hearing Board may permit or request the parties to submit a brief written argument in support of their position to the Faculty Hearing Board within five class days of the hearing.

Paragraph 12.7c.11

Only the hearing record will inform the Faculty Hearing Board's deliberations.

Paragraph 12.7c.12

The Faculty Hearing Board's recommendation will be determined by majority and will be conveyed in a written report by the Faculty Hearing Board, signed and attested by each member, to the Hearing Officer as soon as practicable but not later than 30 class days of the conclusion of the hearing. Any minority letters will be signed and attested by the member(s) and will be included in the Faculty Hearing Board's written report when presented to the Hearing Officer.

Paragraph 12.7c.13

The Faculty Hearing Board's recommendation will specify first whether a majority agrees that misconduct occurred in the manner(s) indicated in the Provost's written statement proposing major sanction(s).

Paragraph 12.7c.14

In addition, the Faculty Hearing Board's recommendation will specify whether a majority agrees that the proposed sanction is appropriate, or will propose an alternative sanction, accompanied by adequate reasoning for the recommendation.

Section 12.8 Decision of the Provost

Subdivision 12.8a

The Faculty Hearing Board will submit its final report and recommendation to the Provost, along with the record, with a copy to the Provost and the Respondent.

Subdivision 12.8b

There will be no oral argument before the Provost, but either party may submit a brief in support of the party's position. Such a brief shall be submitted within fourteen (14) class days of the receipt of the Faculty Hearing Board's report by the parties.

Subdivision 12.8c

After reviewing the Faculty Hearing Board's report and recommendation and the record in the case, the Provost will determine what administrative response, if any, shall be taken. In making such a decision, the Provost will give great weight to the report and recommendation of the Faculty Hearing Board. The decision of the President shall be issued within sixty (60) class days following the receipt of the parties' briefs (or the expiration of time to submit such briefs).

Subdivision 12.8d

If the Provost accepts the recommendation of the Faculty Hearing Board, the Provost will notify the parties in writing of their final decision. If the Provost rejects the recommendation of the Faculty Hearing Board, the Provost will issue a written decision explaining the reasons for doing so.

Section 12.9 Further Appeal

Subdivision 12.9a

The grievance process provided in Faculty Handbook [Chapter 13](#) is available as recourse to a tenured faculty member who faces dismissal or any other sanction as a result of the faculty hearing process, including review by an external arbitrator.

Section 12.10 Other Provisions

Subdivision 12.10a Representation

A faculty member utilizing this procedure may be represented at all stages by a representative of United Faculty when the faculty member elects, in writing, to have United Faculty assist her/him in such proceedings.

Subdivision 12.10b Application of Time Limits

The failure of an employee or United Faculty to act on an appeal under this Chapter within the prescribed time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal under this Chapter. The time limits may be extended only by written agreement of the faculty member and the University.

Subdivision 12.10c Costs

In those appeals in which the faculty member has requested and obtained the assistance of United Faculty in pursuing such appeal, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and United Faculty. Otherwise, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and the faculty member.

Subdivision 12.10d Election of Forum

If a faculty member files any claim or complaint in any forum other than under this Chapter, then, while the complaint is pending or if it has been adjudicated, the University shall not be required to process the same or a substantially equivalent claim through the procedures of this Chapter.

Subdivision 12.10e Days Defined

If not otherwise noted, days refer to class days. Class days during summer appointments will be counted unless mutually agreed upon by both parties. Class days for faculty not on a summer appointment are not counted except upon mutual agreement.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN: GRIEVANCE/APEAL PROCEDURES

Section 13.0 Preamble

The procedures of this Chapter will be available as the exclusive institutional remedy for a faculty member who receives an unfavorable decision by the administration:

Section 13.1 Scope

An unfavorable decision by the administration for the purpose of this chapter is the following:

Subdivision 13.1a On Tenure

Where the first regularly scheduled decision on tenure has been not to award tenure, or where the decision will result in termination.

Subdivision 13.1b On Promotion

Where the arbitration procedures of this Chapter had not been used by the faculty member during the preceding four (4) years with respect to promotion at the same rank, or where the grounds on which a previous promotion grievance was denied have been materially altered.

Subdivision 13.1c On Non-Renewal

Where the faculty member has been on a probationary appointment.

Subdivision 13.1d On Termination of a Term Appointment

When the termination of the faculty member is to occur before the end of the term of the appointment.

Subdivision 13.1e On Termination of a Tenured Faculty Member

A tenured faculty member who receives a decision on termination by the President may elect to seek a review of the President's decision by commencing the review at the step provided in [Section 13.6](#) within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of such decision.

Subdivision 13.1f Immediate Discharge of a Probationary Faculty Member

In the event a probationary faculty member is immediately discharged for cause during an academic year, as opposed to a non-renewal as provided elsewhere in this Chapter, the faculty member may seek a review pursuant to [Sections 13.5](#), [13.6](#), and [13.7](#) as provided in this Chapter by requesting such review in writing within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of such decision.

Subdivision 13.1g Involuntary Transfer of a Probationary or Tenured Faculty Member

In the event of an involuntary transfer of a probationary or tenured faculty member to a different department, such faculty member may seek a review pursuant to [Sections 13.5](#), [13.6](#), and [13.7](#) as provided in this Chapter by requesting such review in writing within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of the written reason(s) for the transfer.

Subdivision 13.1h Discipline Other Than Discharge of a Probationary or Tenured Faculty Member

In the event a probationary or tenured faculty member is disciplined with a sanction, such faculty member may seek a review pursuant to [Sections 13.5](#), [13.6](#), and [13.7](#) as provided in this Chapter by requesting such review in writing within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of such action.

Section 13.2 Availability of Review

While decisions to promote, to award tenure, or to reappoint a faculty member on a probationary appointment are the responsibility of academic officers, and while no opportunity for hearing is routinely provided in connection with a failure to promote, to reappoint, or to grant tenure, a hearing, as provided in this Chapter, shall be available in such cases where there is an allegation that the action was based on one or more of the grounds for complaint in [Section 13.4](#).

Section 13.3 Grounds for Complaint

Subdivision 13.3 a Discrimination

Based on the faculty member's age, national origin, race, color, religion, creed, political affiliation, veteran/military status, disability, pregnancy, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other status protected by applicable federal or state law;

Subdivision 13.3b Academic Freedom

For reasons which violate the faculty member's academic freedom, as the term is defined and limited by the American Association of University Professors 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure with the 1970 Interpretive Comments, Board of Regents Policy and [UNI Policy 6.10](#) entitled, "Ethics and Academic Responsibility";

Subdivision 13.3c Established Procedures

Made by the administration in a manner, which substantially fails to comport with established University procedures on tenure, promotion, or termination as defined in Section 13.0;

Subdivision 13.3d Reasons and Facts

Made for reasons which are clearly inappropriate as a basis for decision or clearly without basis in fact; or

Subdivision 13.3e Expectations

Made despite the faculty member's reasonable expectations based on representations in writing made to him or her by the Provost or dean of the faculty member's college that the faculty member would be reappointed, granted tenure or promoted.

Section 13.4 Appeal Conference**Subdivision 13.4a Filing of an Appeal**

A faculty member who desires review of decisions defined under [Section 13.1](#) shall submit a notice of appeal to the Office of the Provost within twenty-one (21) days of receiving an unfavorable decision. Such notice of appeal shall include the appropriate grounds for complaint as defined in [Section 13.4](#), and, in reasonable detail, the alleged facts which support those grounds for complaint. The intent to appeal shall be filed on the Notice of Appeal form, which may be obtained from the Office of the Provost.

Subdivision 13.4b Request for Faculty Hearing Board Review

In appeals of a major sanction that has been imposed without prior review by a Faculty Hearing Board pursuant to the procedures provided for in [Chapter 12](#), upon request by the faculty member, the Provost will designate that the Faculty Hearing Board will hear the appeal pursuant to the procedures provided for in [Chapter 12](#).

Subdivision 13.4c Conference

Within twenty-one (21) days of filing the Notice of Appeal, a conference shall be held between the affected faculty member and the Provost or designee. At the conference, the affected faculty member shall have the opportunity to present written evidence and to make oral arguments on behalf of their position. Five (5) days in advance of the conference, the Provost or designee shall provide a written statement of the reasons for the negative personnel decision. Invited to the conference will be the dean of the college, head of the department, and, when requested by the faculty member, a representative of the United Faculty. For appeals brought pursuant to [Subdivisions 13.1a](#) or [13.1b](#), the chair of the Professional Assessment Committee shall be invited to attend the appeal conference.

Subdivision 13.4d Disposition of Appeal

Within forty-five (45) calendar days of the conference, the Provost or designee will indicate their disposition of the appeal, in writing, and shall furnish a copy thereof to the affected faculty member and all invited parties.

Section 13.5 Dismissal of Tenured Faculty

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, in the case of dismissal of a tenured faculty member the University shall have the burden of proving just cause for the dismissal by a preponderance of the evidence, and in such case the decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding.

Section 13.6 Arbitration

Subdivision 13.6a Nature of Appeal and Time Limits

If the affected faculty member is not satisfied with the disposition of the appeal, she/he may file an "intent to appeal to the arbitrator." Such intent to appeal shall be filed with the Office of the Provost within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt of the Provost or designee's disposition of the appeal. The intent to appeal shall be filed on the Request for Arbitration form, which may be obtained from the Office of the Provost.

Subdivision 13.6b Cost of Arbitration

In those appeals in which the faculty member has requested and obtained the assistance of United Faculty in pursuing the matter through arbitration, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and United Faculty. Otherwise, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and the faculty member.

Subdivision 13.6c Selection of Arbitrator

When a faculty member has filed a Request for Arbitration, the Provost and/or designee and the faculty member and/or designee shall, within 14 calendar days, meet to select the arbitrator. If the parties are unable to agree to an arbitrator, the parties shall strike alternately from the permanent panel of arbitrators identified by the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board until one name remains. The person who remains shall be the arbitrator. The parties shall promptly notify the arbitrator of their selection.

Subdivision 13.6d Hearing Proceedings

The arbitrator so selected shall confer with the affected faculty member and the Office of the Provost and hold a hearing promptly. The hearing shall be open except by agreement between the University and the faculty member or if the arbitrator orders the proceedings closed for cause. The faculty member shall present evidence first and shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that there has been a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of any provision of this Faculty Handbook or any formally adopted University, College, department, or PAC policy/procedure subject to an appeal. The arbitrator shall issue a report not later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the close of the hearing. Such report shall be in writing and shall set forth their findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions on the issue submitted.

Subdivision 13.6e Standard of Review

The standard of review to be applied by the arbitrator shall be whether the affected faculty member has proven by a preponderance of the evidence that there has been a violation, misinterpretation, or misapplication of any provision of this Faculty Handbook or any formally adopted University, College, department, or PAC policy/procedure subject to an appeal.

Section 13.7 Disposition of the Arbitrator's Report

Subdivision 13.7a President's Review

The report of the arbitrator, the Provost's disposition of the appeal, and the record made in the case, shall be forwarded to the President for review. After reviewing the record, the arbitrator's report, and the Provost's disposition, the President will determine what administrative response, if any, shall be taken. In making such decision, the President will give great weight to the report of the arbitrator. There will be no oral argument before the President, but either party may submit a brief not to exceed four (4) pages in support of the party's position. Such brief shall be submitted within fourteen (14) calendar days of the receipt of the arbitrator's report by the parties. The decision of the President shall be issued within sixty (60) calendar days following receipt of such briefs (or the expiration of time to submit such briefs).

Subdivision 13.7b Acceptance by President

If the President accepts the recommendation of the arbitrator, the President shall notify the parties in writing of their final decision.

Subdivision 13.7c Rejection by President

If the President rejects the recommendation of the arbitrator, the President shall do so in writing, giving reasons for going against the report, which shall constitute the final decision of the University.

Subdivision 13.6d Appeal to the Board

The final decision of the President may be appealed to the Board of Regents pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Board of Regents Policy Manual.

Section 13.8 Other Provisions

Subdivision 13.8a Representation

A faculty member utilizing this procedure may be represented at all stages by a representative of United Faculty when the faculty member elects, in writing, to have United Faculty assist her/him in such proceedings.

Subdivision 13.8b Application of Time Limits

The failure of an employee or United Faculty to act on an appeal under this Chapter within the prescribed time limits will act as a bar to any further appeal under this Chapter. The time limits may be extended only by written agreement of the faculty member and the University.

Subdivision 13.8c Costs

In those appeals in which the faculty member has requested and obtained the assistance of United Faculty in pursuing such appeal, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and United Faculty. Otherwise, the costs for the services of the arbitrator will be borne equally by the University and the faculty member.

Subdivision 13.8d Election of Forum

If a faculty member files any claim or complaint in any forum other than under this Chapter, then, while the complaint is pending or if it has been adjudicated, the University shall not be required to process the same or a substantially equivalent claim through the procedures of this Chapter.

Subdivision 13.8e Days Defined

If not otherwise noted, days refer to class days. Class days during summer appointments will be counted unless mutually agreed upon by both parties. Class days for faculty not on a summer appointment are not counted except upon mutual agreement.

Subdivision 13.8f Arbitration Hearings

All hearings before the arbitrator under this procedure shall be open except if the parties mutually agree that the proceedings shall be closed, or the arbitrator orders the proceedings closed for cause.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Section 14.0 Provision for Health and Safety

The University shall provide, in accordance with the regulations of the applicable federal and state agencies, for the health and safety of faculty members to facilitate the performance of their responsibilities.

Section 14.1 Facilities and Equipment

The University shall furnish and maintain in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations all University buildings, facilities, grounds and equipment necessary for the faculty members' performance of their responsibilities without danger to their health and safety.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN: TRANSFER

Section 15.0 Definition

The University's assignment of a faculty member to another department shall be considered a transfer.

Section 15.1 Notice

Notice of forthcoming transfers shall be provided to affected faculty members in writing as soon as practical, and not less than 60 days prior to the effective date of such transfer unless exceptional circumstances exist. The written notice shall contain the reasons necessitating the transfer. A copy of the notice shall be provided to Faculty Leadership. Normally, transfers shall not take place during the course of a semester.

Section 15.2 Meeting Prior to Transfer

Transfers shall be made only after a meeting between the faculty member involved, the United Faculty representative, if requested, and the University administrator who is responsible for the transfer decision.

Section 15.3 Involuntary Transfer

Subdivision 15.3a

Prior to making an involuntary transfer, the faculty member will be notified and the faculty member may volunteer for the transfer. If the transfer becomes involuntary, the faculty member will be provided written reason(s) for the transfer.

Subdivision 15.3b

If the faculty member objects to the transfer, the University will consider other viable alternatives, if any.

Subdivision 15.3c

A faculty member who has been involuntarily transferred shall receive consideration for reassignment if such opportunity becomes available in the future.

APPENDIX A: DEPARTMENTAL STANDARDS AND CRITERIA DOCUMENT TEMPLATE

Departmental Standards and Criteria Document (Instructions for Development)

This document identifies the process for the specific operationalization of criteria for evaluating faculty performance at the departmental level, to be documented according to [Section 3.2 Departmental Standards and Criteria Document](#). Departments may complete the attached templates by adding criteria for 1) annual evaluations and 2) cumulative reviews. These templates are to include specific criteria appropriate for each rank according to each evaluative review time period.

All probationary and tenured faculty, PACs, and department heads are expected to collaborate together in order to create clear, consistent department-level standards and criteria for the purposes of evaluation, promotion, and tenure. Departments should consult with adjuncts, term (1-4), and renewable term faculty regarding standards for their performance.

All criteria are to be reviewed annually in the spring semester by all departmental faculty members and department heads and submitted to the dean for approval. The dean will consult with the College Review Committee (CRC) and Associate Provost for Faculty (in consultation with the Faculty Evaluation Committee during initial development and the Faculty Handbook Committee thereafter as needed). Upon approval of the document, it is to be distributed by department heads to the faculty of each department.

UNI recognizes, values, and prioritizes teaching as a faculty member's primary responsibility. The university also values and rewards scholarship and service when such activities are part of the faculty member's assigned workload.

Departments shall list criteria specifying any materials to demonstrate teaching effectiveness in addition to the required components in scholarship and service. Tenured faculty may engage in Discovery, Integration, or Application research within their field of expertise. Additionally, the templates must specify which if any Integration or Application scholarship is to be recognized for promotion and tenure for probationary faculty. Discovery, Integration and Application components must be included in scholarly criteria developed.

Criteria should specify departmental expectations for meeting expectations, exceeding expectations, and needing improvement for annual reviews, which align with expectations for promotion, tenure, and Post-Tenure Review. All criteria must be consistent with the University Guiding Standards and Criteria ([Section 3.12](#)). Criteria should specify departmental expectations for "Meets Expectations", "Exceeds Expectations", and "Needs Improvement" for continuation, promotion, tenure, and Post-Tenure Review by rank and work portfolio.

Below are important definitions and sections included in the Faculty Handbook which inform the development of specific criteria:

Teaching

Faculty members' primary role is to provide high quality teaching to students. Because excellence in teaching is the top priority of UNI, teaching is evaluated first and foremost. Only after an affirmative judgment as to documented teaching or librarianship effectiveness has been made can serious consideration be given to an evaluation of research/scholarship/creative achievement and service. UNI expects faculty to foster critical thinking and knowledge in the content area of study, as well as to tailor course content and rigor to the course level, curricular needs, program learning goals and outcomes, and UNI's student body. Faculty teaching should evolve over time as faculty members continue to refine and develop their teaching skills across their career. UNI encourages faculty to consider new pedagogical approaches when appropriate for their discipline. Teaching should be informed by the scholarship of teaching and learning and/or one's research.

Definition of Teaching ([Section 4.1](#))

Materials and Methods for Measuring Faculty Performance in Teaching ([Section 3.7](#))

Optional Teaching Components ([Subdivision 3.7e](#))

Required Component: Annual Goals and Reflection ([Subdivision 3.6d](#))

Required Component: Observations ([Subdivision 3.7a](#))

Definition of Librarianship ([Section 4.2](#))

Definition of Scholarship ([Section 4.3](#))

Discovery ([Subdivision 4.3a](#))

Integration ([Subdivision 4.3b](#))

Application ([Subdivision 4.3c](#))

Departmental Standards and Criteria Document*

Department: _____

Calendar Year: **20xx**
University of Northern Iowa

PAC Chair: _____ Date: _____

Department Head: _____ Date: _____

Approved By:

Dean: _____ Date: _____
[In consultation with the College Review Committee (CRC)]

Provost or designee: _____ Date: _____

*To be distributed by April 20.

Departmental Standards and Criteria Document Template

Name of Department _____

Academic Year: 20xx-20xx

Date of Revision _____

TEACHING CRITERIA* (annual)

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>STANDARD PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>EXTENDED TEACHING PORTFOLIO</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Probationary Faculty/Assistant Professors	Associate Professors	Professors	Tenured Faculty (all ranks)
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

**differentiated portfolios are to be evaluated according to the terms of the approved Memorandum of Understanding (see [Subdivision 4.8a](#))*

Summary of Teaching Criteria*: Expectations for Cumulative Reviews (6 years) for Promotion and Tenure; Promotion, and Post-Tenure Review:

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>STANDARD PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>EXTENDED TEACHING PORTFOLIO</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Probationary Faculty/Assistant Professors	Associate Professors	Professors	Tenured Faculty (all ranks)
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

**differentiated portfolios are to be evaluated according to the terms of the approved Memorandum of Understanding (see [Subdivision 4.8a](#))*

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA* (annual)

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>STANDARD PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>EXTENDED TEACHING PORTFOLIO</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Probationary Faculty/Assistant Professors	Associate Professors	Professors	Tenured Faculty (all ranks)
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

**differentiated portfolios are to be evaluated according to the terms of the approved Memorandum of Understanding (see [Subdivision 4.8a](#))*

Summary of Scholarship Criteria^{12*} - Expectations for Cumulative Reviews (6 years) for promotion and tenure; promotion, and Post-Tenure Review:

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>STANDARD PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>EXTENDED TEACHING PORTFOLIO</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Probationary Faculty/Assistant Professors	Associate Professors	Professors	Tenured Faculty (all ranks)
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

**differentiated portfolios are to be evaluated according to the terms of the approved Memorandum of Understanding (see [Subdivision 4.8a](#))*

¹² "Scholarship" refers to research, creative activity, and other forms of academic scholarly activity.

SERVICE CRITERIA* (annual)

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>STANDARD PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>EXTENDED TEACHING PORTFOLIO</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Probationary Faculty/Assistant Professors	Associate Professors	Professors	Tenured Faculty (all ranks)
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

**differentiated portfolios are to be evaluated according to the terms of the approved Memorandum of Understanding (see [Subdivision 4.8a](#))*

**Summary of Service Criteria*: Expectations for Cumulative Reviews (6 years)
for Promotion and Tenure; Promotion, and Post-Tenure Review:**

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>STANDARD PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>EXTENDED TEACHING PORTFOLIO</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Probationary Faculty/Assistant Professors	Associate Professors	Professors	Tenured Faculty (all ranks)
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

**differentiated portfolios are to be evaluated according to the terms of the approved Memorandum of Understanding (see [Subdivision 4.8a](#))*

TEACHING (Scholarship/Service – if present) CRITERIA (annual)

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>TEACHING PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>RESEARCH/SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES (if present)</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Renewable Term, or Temporary Instructors	Instructors	Senior Instructors	Criteria to be defined in offer or annual evaluation letters according to individualized portfolio assignments
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

TEACHING (Scholarship/Service – if present) CRITERIA - Expectations for Cumulative Reviews (6 years)

	<u>RANKS:</u>	<u>TEACHING PORTFOLIO:</u>		<u>RESEARCH/SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES (if present)</u>
<u>RATINGS:</u>	Renewable Term, or Temporary Instructors	Instructors	Senior Instructors	Criteria to be defined in offer or annual evaluation letters according to individualized portfolio assignments
Meets Expectations				
Exceeds Expectations				
Needs Improvement				

APPENDIX B: PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE PROCEDURES TEMPLATE

Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) Procedures (Instructions for Development)

The Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) Procedures Document ([Section 3.3](#)) defines how each Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) organizes, functions, schedules and complete its work.

The document is to be created separately but in conjunction with the Departmental Standards and Criteria Document, which is utilized by individual departments as their guiding resource for faculty evaluation (see [Section 3.2](#)). Any PAC procedures developed must be consistent with the Faculty Handbook and are to be approved annually by the department head, dean [in consultation with the College Review Committee (CRC)], and Provost or designee (in consultation initially upon development with the Faculty Evaluation Committee and then the Faculty Handbook Committee as needed in the future). The procedures are then distributed to the faculty of each department. The procedures must adhere to the Evaluation Timeline ([Table 3.3](#)).

If the department head, dean, or Provost or designee reject the department's document, they shall provide clear direction and feedback for revising the document to meet the University Guiding Standards ([Section 3.12](#)) and other general university policies and procedures. Departments which fail to create or document specific approved department-level standards and criteria for evaluating faculty shall default to the University Guiding Standards documented in this Handbook.

Faculty Handbook provisions related to roles, responsibilities, deliberations, parliamentary authority, scheduling of meetings, and PAC reports is documented in the Faculty Handbook, [Subdivision 3.4b](#).

Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) Procedures Document*

Department: _____

Calendar Year: **20xx**
University of Northern Iowa

Reviewed annually by:

PAC Chair: _____ Date: _____

Department Head: _____ Date: _____

Dean: _____ Date: _____

[In consultation with the College Review Committee (CRC)]

Provost or designee: _____ Date: _____

***To be distributed by April 20.**

APPENDIX C: LEGACY STATUS AND NEW DEPARTMENT STANDARDS PLAN FOR PROBATIONARY FACULTY; POST-TENURE REVIEW AND PROMOTION FOR ADJUNCT (50% OR MORE APPOINTMENTS) AND RENEWABLE TERM FACULTY

The university recognizes the challenges that come with implementing a new evaluation system with new standards and criteria. The appendix chart below documents the ability for some faculty to utilize the legacy Standards and Criteria or not, as well as dates of implementation into the new system¹³.

Legacy Status and New Department Standards and Criteria Implementation Schedule: Start Dates

	Annual Review Standards and Criteria	Tenure and/or Promotion Standards and Criteria	Eligibility for Promotion	Post-Tenure Review Standards and Criteria	Eligibility for Post-Tenure Review
All faculty hired for 2019 or after	Fall 2019	New Departmental Standards and Criteria	Fall 2025, or as specified in letter of offer	New Departmental Standards and Criteria	Year six after tenure
Probationary faculty starting prior to 2019	Fall 2019	Choice of new or old Departmental Standards and Criteria	Year 6	New Departmental Standards and Criteria	Year six after tenure
Faculty tenured prior to 2019	Fall 2019	Choice of new or old Departmental Standards and Criteria through Fall 2023	Year 6 or later after tenure	New Departmental Standards and Criteria	Year 6, 12, 18, or 24 after receiving tenure but no sooner than Fall 2023
Adjunct and Renewable Term Faculty hired before 2019	Fall 2019	New Departmental Standards and Criteria	Faculty with the most semesters (50% or more) starting in 2023	NA	NA
Adjunct and Renewable Term Faculty hired for or after 2019	Fall 2019	New Departmental Standards and Criteria	Year 6 or later	NA	NA

Annual Review

All faculty are subject to the University Guiding Standards and the Departmental Standards and Criteria for the purposes of the annual reviews and merit pay beginning in Fall 2019.

Faculty Hired for Fall 2019 or Beyond

Faculty starting in or after Fall 2019 are subject to the new University Guiding Standards ([Section 3.12](#)) and Departmental Standards and Criteria ([Section 3.2](#)) for the purposes of annual reviews, tenure, promotion, and Post-Tenure Review.

Probationary Faculty Starting Prior to Fall 2019

Faculty who started prior to Fall 2019 shall have the choice of seeking promotion and/or tenure under the standards and criteria of the old or new system. Faculty shall declare in writing which system of standards they wish to be assessed by October 15, 2019, to request to seek promotion and/or tenure.

¹³ "New" refers only to the Departmental Standards and Criteria in place in FY2019-2020 or after. "Old" refers to the Departmental Standards and Criteria in place for each year prior to SY2019-2020. New PAC Procedures must be used in 2019-2020 and after.

Adjunct (50% or More Appointment) and Renewable Term Faculty

Faculty who are not on the tenure-track are eligible for promotion starting in year six. Renewable term Instructors and adjunct faculty Instructors with more than twelve cumulative semesters (at 50% or more) of service at UNI are eligible to seek promotion on an expedited timeline after three years of annual reviews, starting in 2023. Faculty who wish to seek promotion starting in Fall 2023 may request promotion by April 15 of the prior spring semester. In the event that more faculty are seeking promotion than can be reasonably accommodated by the department head or PAC, then faculty shall be broken evenly into 2 or 3 groups based on seniority (i.e., faculty with the most years of service at UNI first) to be evaluated for promotion over 2023 and 2024 (with an extension to 2025 as an option in very large departments).

Assistant Adjunct Professors (on 50% or more appointments), if approved by the department head and dean, may opt to count up to two years of prior service before Fall 2019 as an Adjunct (50% or more) when applying for promotion to Associate Adjunct Professor. When applying for promotion to Associate Professor of Instruction, Renewable Term Instructor, if approved in advance by the department head and dean, may count up to two years prior service before Fall 2019 as a previous Term Instructor, Renewable Term Instructor, or Adjunct Instructor who taught a full-time load for the two-year period and participated fully in scholarship or service activities each semester.

Tenured Faculty

Faculty who were tenured prior to the implementation of the new system shall have the choice of seeking promotion under the standards and criteria of the old or new system through Fall 2023. Faculty shall declare in writing which system of Departmental Standards and Criteria they wish to be assessed on April 30 of the prior spring in their request to seek promotion.

Faculty tenured prior to 2019 shall undergo Post-Tenure Review 6, 12, 18, or 24 years after tenure or most recent promotion but no sooner than Fall 2023.

For example, if a faculty member received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2000 (but has not been promoted to Professor), they will undergo Post-Tenure Review in 2024. If that person was promoted to Professor in 2009, they will go up for Post-Tenure Review in 2027. People receiving tenure in 2019 will be up for post-tenure in 2025.