

26 February 2014 (approved 10 April 2014; rev. 21 August 2014)
Accepted by the Advisory Committee on January 23, 2015

College of Letters Promotion to Tenure Expectations

The College of Letters adheres to the tenure and promotion guidelines in the faculty handbook and the two Presidential Statements on tenure and promotion.

Scholarship¹

The expectation of the College is that a candidate for tenure will present a fully completed book manuscript of high quality and original research, which ought either to have been published or unconditionally accepted for publication at the time the candidate submits materials for tenure consideration. In addition, it is expected that the candidate for tenure should demonstrate progress beyond the monograph and signs of new thinking and growth while at Wesleyan. Such progress may be demonstrated in articles, lectures, conference papers, grant applications, or work in progress that can be evaluated in written form. Submitted materials will be evaluated by the tenured COL faculty and informed by the assessment of outside referees. We recommend that the candidate be in regular communication with his or her mentor regarding the pace, quantity, and quality of the artistic/scholarly record or, in the case of work completed prior to Wesleyan, how the College will factor such work into its evaluation.

Teaching

Excellence in teaching is our expectation. In our assessment of teaching we take into consideration the variety of pedagogical formats expected in the COL (colloquia, first-year seminars, upper-level discussion classes/seminars, thesis supervision, and lecture courses in departments where those are required). We are informed by student evaluations, comments from colleagues who have observed classes or co-taught with the candidate, syllabi, and the candidate's teaching statement (which should discuss both strengths and weaknesses and how these latter have been addressed); student letters are optional. We recognize that the range and variety of teaching formats in the COL takes time to learn, and we attend closely to the candidate's overall trajectory and contributions to our curriculum.

Colleagueship

Full participation in the range of COL academic and social activities is expected, as well as contributions to relevant programs outside the College. We value and expect intellectual collaborations and initiatives both within and outside the COL, as well as university service and service to professional organizations.

¹ Positions solely appointed in the College of Letters. In joint COL positions the COL uses the same criteria for scholarship as the partner department, while reserving its own judgment, informed by outside referees, on the quality of scholarship. As a reminder, joint appointments are governed by protocols worked out between the COL and its partner department.

16 March 2015

Approved by the Advisory Committee March 2015

College of Letters Expectations in Cases of Promotion to Full Professor

The College of Letters adheres to the guidelines in the faculty handbook and the two Presidential Statements on promotion in considering cases of promotion to full professor in the College of Letters. Expectations on scholarship apply to positions solely appointed in the College of Letters. In joint COL positions the COL uses the same criteria for scholarship as the partner department, while reserving its own judgment, informed by outside referees, on the quality of scholarship. Joint appointments are governed by protocols worked out between the COL and its partner department.

Scholarship

The expectation of the College of Letters is that a candidate for full professor will present either a second book (understood to be a different book than the one submitted at the tenure review) of high quality and original research that ought to have been published or unconditionally accepted for publication by the time the candidate submits materials for the promotion consideration, or a number of articles, essays or book chapters of high quality and original research, written and published since tenure. In addition to the “book” or “article” path, a successful promotion case may consist of other important contributions to the field such as a comparable amount of work in scholarly or critical edition(s) or scholarly or literary translation(s). The number of such publications cannot be specified in advance, though we would expect the body of work to be comparable to a standard academic monograph. The published works need not pursue a singular thematic inquiry.

Teaching

Continued excellence in teaching is our expectation. In our assessment of teaching we take into consideration the variety of pedagogical formats expected in the COL (colloquia, first-year seminars, upper-level discussion classes/seminars, and thesis supervision). We are informed by student evaluations, comments from colleagues who have observed classes or co-taught with the candidate, syllabi, and the candidate’s teaching statement (which should discuss both strengths and weaknesses and how these latter have been addressed); student letters are optional. We attend closely to the candidate’s overall trajectory and contributions to our curriculum.

Colleagueship

Continued full participation in the range of COL academic and social activities is expected, as well as contributions to relevant programs outside the College. We value and expect intellectual collaborations and initiatives both within and outside the COL, as well as university service and service to professional organizations.