

CHAPTER 4

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS, GENERAL EXPECTATIONS, AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

The Board of Regents (BOR) has an established policy on appointment, rank and tenure of faculty. This chapter has been revised according to the BOR policy:

II-1.00 – POLICY ON APPOINTMENT, RANK, AND TENURE OF FACULTY

(Approved by the Board of Regents, April 5, 1989; Amended November 12, 1993; Amended October 6, 1995; Amended April 4, 1997; Amended July 11, 1997; Amended July 10, 1998; Amended December 4, 1998; Amended April 7, 2000; Amended October 27, 2000; Amended December 8, 2000; Technical Amendment September, 2002; Amended February 21, 2003; Amended October 22, 2004; Amended June 22, 2005 {1st Paragraph Page 17 added}; Amended June 20, 2008; Amended April 13, 2012; Amended June 10, 2016)

This policy sets forth the specific criteria for the appointment, promotion, and granting of tenure to faculty by Bowie State University. Final authority for the appointment, promotion, and granting of tenure of faculty resides in the President.

4.1 APPOINTMENT OF FACULTY

4.1.1 Search Process for Full-Time Faculty

1. This document contains the written procedures to describe the search process for full-time faculty members. These procedures describe the way all new faculty members will be recruited, including special arrangements for inter-institutional appointments, interdepartmental appointments, and appointments in new academic units.
2. Visiting faculty appointments are usually made for one academic year or less. Only in unusual circumstances shall a visiting appointment exceed a total of three years. A visiting faculty appointee can become a regular appointee only through a search process before or after the initial appointment in accordance with the institution's procedures, including adherence to affirmative action guidelines. Years of service in a visiting appointment may, upon mutual agreement of the faculty member and the institution, be counted as probationary years for purposes of consideration for tenure.
3. Search procedures reflect Bowie State University's commitment to equal opportunity and affirmative action and shall be widely publicized within the institution.
4. Faculty review committees are a part of the review and recommendation process for new full-time faculty appointments.

4.1.2 Offers of Appointment

1. A final offer of appointment can be made only with the approval of the President, or designee.
2. All faculty appointments shall be made to a designated rank and shall be effective on a specific date. Each institution shall develop a standard contract or letter of appointment for each rank and tenure status, which shall be approved by the Office of the Attorney General for form and legal sufficiency. Each institution shall also develop a faculty handbook, which shall include system-wide policies and procedures approved by the Board of Regents and institutional policies and procedures approved by the chief executive officer of the institution that set forth faculty rights and responsibilities. The contract or letter of appointment shall constitute a contractually binding agreement between the institution and the appointee.

4.1.3 Provisions Related to Appointments, Promotion, Tenure, And Permanent Status

The following provisions are to be furnished to all new faculty at time of initial appointment.

1. Adjustments in salary or advancement in rank may be made under these policies, and, except where a definite termination date is a condition of appointment, the conditions pertaining to the rank as modified shall become effective as of the date of the modification. For tenure-track appointments, the year in which the appointee is entitled to tenure review under this policy (“mandatory tenure-review year”) shall be specified in the original and subsequent contracts/letters of appointment. Tenure review shall occur in that year unless otherwise agreed in writing by the institution and the appointee. Tenure in any rank can be awarded only by an affirmative decision based upon a formal review.
2. Appointments and reappointments to the rank of full-time Instructor without tenure may be for one to three years, provided no appointment without tenure may extend beyond the end of the mandatory tenure-review year. An appointment to the rank of full-time Instructor will be renewed automatically for one additional year unless the appointee is notified in writing to the contrary in accordance with the following deadlines: not later than March 1 of the first academic year of service if the current appointment expires at the end of that year, not later than December 15 of the second academic year of service if the current appointment expires at the end of that year, and not later than August 1 prior to the third or any subsequent academic year of service if the current appointment expires at the end of that year. For appointments beginning at times other than the start of an academic year, the institution may adjust the notice of nonrenewal dates accordingly by specifying such adjustments in the initial contract or letter of appointment. Appointments to the rank of Instructor may be terminated at any time in accordance with paragraphs I.C.6 through I.C.11.

Tenure in the rank of Instructor can be awarded only by an affirmative decision based upon a formal review. An Instructor without tenure, whose appointment has been extended to a sixth year of continuous, full-time service commencing on or after July 1, 1990, shall receive no later than during that sixth year a formal review for tenure. If the institution fails to conduct a tenure review in accordance with the schedule provided in this policy, the appointee is entitled to a further one-year appointment during which the tenure review shall take place. The appointee reviewed for tenure shall be notified in writing, by the end of the appointment year in which the review was conducted, of the decision either to grant or deny tenure. An instructor who has been reviewed during a mandatory review year, and notified in writing that tenure has been denied, shall be granted an additional and terminal one-year appointment in that rank, but barring exceptional circumstances, shall receive no further consideration for tenure.

An Instructor with or without tenure may be promoted to Assistant Professor. If an Instructor without tenure is appointed as an Assistant Professor, the provisions of I.C.3 apply to the appointment, except that the appointee's review for tenure must occur no later than the sixth year of continuous full-time employment, commencing on or after July 1, 1990, in the ranks of Instructor and Assistant Professor. Tenure in any rank can be awarded only by an affirmative decision based upon a formal review.

3. Appointments and reappointments to the rank of full-time Assistant Professor without tenure may be for one to three years, provided no appointment without tenure may extend beyond the end of the mandatory tenure-review year. An appointment to the rank of full-time Assistant Professor will be renewed automatically for one additional year unless the appointee is notified in writing to the contrary in accordance with the following deadlines: not later than March 1 of the first academic year of service if the current appointment expires at the end of that year, not later than December 15 of the second academic year of service if the current appointment expires at the end of that year, and not later than August 1 prior to the third or any subsequent academic year of service if the current appointment expires at the end of that year. For appointments beginning at times other than the start of an academic year, the institution may adjust the notice of nonrenewal dates accordingly by specifying such adjustments in the initial contract or letter of appointment. Appointments to the rank of Assistant Professor may be terminated at any time in accordance with paragraphs I.C.6 through I.C.11.

Tenure in the rank of Assistant Professor can be awarded only by an affirmative decision based upon a formal review. An Assistant Professor without tenure, whose appointment has been extended to a sixth year of continuous, full-time service shall receive no later than during that sixth year a formal review for tenure. If the institution fails to conduct a tenure review in accordance with the schedule provided in this policy, the appointee is entitled to a further one-year appointment during which the tenure review shall take place. The appointee reviewed for tenure shall be notified in writing, by the end of the appointment year in which the review was conducted, of the decision either to grant or deny tenure. An Assistant Professor who has been reviewed during a mandatory review year, and notified in writing that tenure has been denied, shall be

granted an additional and terminal one-year appointment in that rank, but barring exceptional circumstances, shall receive no further consideration for tenure.

4. Appointments or promotions to the rank of full-time Associate Professor require the written approval of the chief executive officer of the institution. New full-time appointments to the rank of Associate Professor may carry immediate tenure provided that each such appointee has been formally reviewed for tenure. Otherwise, such appointments shall be for an initial period of one to four years, except that initial appointments for individuals with no prior teaching experience may be for a maximum of six years and shall terminate at the end of that period unless the appointee is notified in writing that he or she has been granted tenure. Promotions to the rank of Associate Professor carry immediate tenure. Consequently, such promotions may only be awarded subsequent to a formal tenure review and an award of tenure.

An Associate Professor who is appointed without tenure shall receive a formal review for tenure during the period of appointment in accordance with the following deadlines. If the appointment is for an initial period of one year, then the formal review must be completed, and written notice must be given that tenure has been granted or denied, by March 1 of that year. If the appointment is for two years, then the formal review must be completed, and written notice must be given that tenure has been granted or denied, by no later than December 15 of the second year. If the appointment is for more than two years, then the formal review must be completed, and written notice must be given that tenure has been granted or denied, by no later than August 1 prior to the beginning of the final year of the appointment. For appointments beginning at a time other than the start of an academic year, the institution may adjust the notice of tenure denial dates accordingly by specifying the adjustments in the initial contract or letter of appointment. Appointments to the rank of Associate Professor may be terminated at any time as described under paragraphs I.C.6 through I.C.11.

Tenure in the rank of Associate Professor can be awarded only by an affirmative decision based upon a formal review. If the institution fails to conduct a tenure review and provide the required notice in accordance with the schedule provided in this policy, the appointment (unless it is converted to an appointment with tenure) shall be extended for an additional year, so that the notice required by this section may be provided in full. An Associate Professor who has been notified in writing that tenure has been denied, barring exceptional circumstances, shall receive no further consideration for tenure.

5. Full-time appointments or promotions to the rank of full-time Professor require the written approval of the chief executive officer of the institution. New full-time appointments to the rank of Professor may carry immediate tenure provided that each such appointee has been formally reviewed for tenure. Otherwise, such appointments shall be for an initial period of one to four years, except that initial appointments for individuals with no prior teaching experience may be for a maximum of six years and shall terminate at the end of that period unless the appointee is notified in writing that he or she has been granted tenure. Promotions to the rank of Professor carry immediate

tenure. Consequently, such promotions may only be awarded subsequent to a formal tenure review and an award of tenure.

A Professor who is appointed without tenure shall receive a formal review for tenure during the period of appointment in accordance with the following deadlines. If the appointment is for an initial period of one year, then the formal review must be completed, and written notice must be given that tenure has been granted or denied, by March 1 of that year. If the appointment is for two years, then the formal review must be completed, and written notice must be given that tenure has been granted or denied, by no later than December 15 of the second year. If the appointment is for more than two years, then the formal review must be completed, and written notice must be given that tenure has been granted or denied, by no later than August 1 prior to the beginning of the final year of the appointment. For appointments beginning at a time other than the start of an academic year, the institution may adjust the notice of tenure denial dates accordingly by specifying the adjustments in the initial contract or letter of appointment. Appointments to the rank of Professor may be terminated at any time as described under paragraphs I.C.6 through I.C.11.

Tenure in the rank of Professor can be awarded only by an affirmative decision based upon a formal review. If the institution fails to conduct a tenure review and provide the required notice in accordance with the schedule provided in this policy, the appointment (unless it is converted to an appointment with tenure) shall be extended for an additional year, so that the notice required by this section may be provided in full. A Professor who has been notified in writing that tenure has been denied, barring exceptional circumstances, shall receive no further consideration for tenure.

6. A term of service may be terminated by the appointee by resignation, but it is expressly agreed that no resignation shall become effective until the termination of the appointment period in which the resignation is offered except by mutual written agreement between the appointee and the chief executive officer of the institution or designee.
7. (a) The chief executive officer of the institution may terminate the appointment of a tenured or tenure-track appointee for moral turpitude, professional or scholarly misconduct, incompetence, or willful neglect of duty, provided that the charges be stated in writing, that the appointee be furnished a copy thereof, and that the appointee be given an opportunity prior to such termination to request a hearing by an impartial hearing officer appointed by the chief executive officer or a faculty board of review as provided for by the relevant institutional policy body. With the consent of the chief executive officer, the appointee may elect a hearing by the chief executive officer rather than by a hearing officer or a faculty board of review. Upon receipt of notice of termination, the appointee shall have thirty calendar days to request a hearing. The hearing shall be held no sooner than thirty calendar days after receipt of such a request. The date of the hearing shall be set by mutual agreement of the appointee and the hearing officer or faculty board of review. If the chief executive officer appoints a

hearing officer or a faculty board of review is appointed, the hearing officer or board shall make a recommendation to the chief executive officer for action to be taken.

The recommendation shall be based only on the evidence of record in the proceeding. Either party to the hearing may request an opportunity for oral argument before the chief executive officer prior to action on the recommendation. If the chief executive officer does not accept the recommendation of the hearing officer or board of review, the reasons shall be communicated promptly in writing to the appointee and the hearing officer or board. In the event that the chief executive officer elects to terminate the appointment, the appointee may appeal to the Board of Regents, which shall render a final decision.

(b) Under exceptional circumstances and following consultation with the chair of the faculty board of review or appropriate faculty committee, the chief executive officer may direct that the appointee be relieved of some or all of his or her institutional duties, without loss of compensation and without prejudice, pending a final decision in the termination proceedings. (In case of emergency involving threat to life, the chief executive officer may act to suspend temporarily prior to consultation.)

(c) The appointee may elect to be represented by counsel of his or her choice throughout termination proceedings.

8. If an appointment is terminated in the manner prescribed in paragraph 7 the chief executive officer of the institution may, at his or her discretion, relieve the appointee of assigned duties immediately or allow the appointee to continue in the position for a specified period. The appointee's compensation shall continue for a period of one year commencing on the date on which the appointee receives notice of termination. A faculty member whose appointment is terminated for cause involving moral turpitude or professional or scholarly misconduct shall receive no notice or further compensation beyond the date of final action by the chief executive officer or the Board of Regents.
9. The institution may terminate any appointment because of the discontinuance of the department, program, school, or unit in which the appointment was made; or because of the lack of appropriations or other funds with which to support the appointment. Such decisions must be made in accordance with standards and procedures set forth in written institutional policies. The chief executive officer of the institution shall give a full-time appointee holding tenure notice of such termination at least one year before the date on which the appointment is terminated.
10. Notwithstanding any other provisions to the contrary, the appointment of any non-tenured faculty member 50% or more of whose compensation is derived from research contracts, service contracts, gifts, or grants, shall be subject to termination upon expiration of the research funds, service contract income, gifts or grants from which the compensation is payable.

11. Appointments shall terminate upon the death of the appointee. Upon termination for this cause the institution shall pay to the estate of the appointee all accumulated and unpaid earnings of the appointee plus compensation for accumulated unused annual leave.
12. Appointments to all other ranks not specifically mentioned in II.A.1 and all part-time appointments are for terms not to extend beyond the end of the fiscal year unless otherwise stipulated in the letter of appointment. Faculty appointed to ranks not specifically mentioned in II.A.1 on a full-time basis for a term not less than one academic year shall receive notice of non-renewal of contract based upon their length of continuous full-time service in such ranks. If such service is less than seven years, at least 90 days' notice is required. If such service equals or exceeds seven years, at least six months' notice is required. If the required notice is not provided prior to the termination of the then-current contract, this condition may be remedied by extending the contract by the number of days necessary to meet the notice requirement.
13. If in the judgment of the appointee's department chair or supervisor a deficiency in the appointee's professional conduct or performance exists that does not warrant dismissal or suspension, a moderate sanction such as a formal warning or censure may be imposed, provided that the appointee is first afforded an opportunity to contest the action through the established faculty grievance procedure.
14. Unless the appointee agrees otherwise, any changes that are hereafter made in paragraphs I.C.1 through I.C.13 will be applied only to subsequent appointments.
15. Compensation for appointments under these policies is subject to modification in the event of reduction in State appropriations or in other income from which compensation may be paid.
16. The appointee shall be subject to all applicable policies and procedures duly adopted or amended from time to time by the institution, including but not limited to, policies and procedures regarding annual leave; sick leave; sabbatical leave; leave of absence; outside employment; patents and copyrights; scholarly and professional misconduct; retirement; reduction, consolidation, or discontinuation of programs; and criteria on teaching, scholarship, and service.

4.2 FACULTY RANKS, PROMOTION, TENURE, AND PERMANENT STATUS

4.2.1 General Principles

1. The only faculty ranks which may involve a tenure commitment are: Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor, Distinguished University Professor, Senior Staff Scientist, Associate Staff Scientist, Assistant Staff Scientist, Principal Agent, Senior Agent, Agent, (i.e., II.C. 1a-1d, 2a-2c, 3d-3f) and such other ranks as the Board of Regents may approve. Appointments to all other ranks, including any qualified rank in which an additional adjective is introduced (such as "Clinical Professor" or "Medical School