



**Resolution on the USM Policy I-1.00 – POLICY ON APPOINTMENT, RANK, AND TENURE OF FACULTY (Senate Document #23-24-32)**

The Faculty Affairs Committee recommends that the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs create a Task Force next year (2024-2025) to address concerns about the current policy for dismissal of faculty in University System of Maryland (USM) [Policy I-1.00 – POLICY ON APPOINTMENT, RANK, AND TENURE OF FACULTY](#). Current policies do not afford adequate due process.



# UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND

## **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 describes the general criteria and procedures related to faculty personnel actions, which shall apply to all constituent institutions of the University of Maryland System. The specific criteria for the appointment, promotion, and granting of tenure to faculty by constituent institutions are dependent upon institutional mission. Final authority for the appointment, promotion, and granting of tenure of faculty resides in the chief executive officer of the institution, except that the Chancellor has final authority for granting tenure to a president, and the Board of Regents has final authority for granting tenure to a Chancellor.

### **I. APPOINTMENT OF FACULTY**

#### **A. SEARCH PROCESS FOR FULL-TIME FACULTY**

1. Each constituent institution and the System Office shall have written procedures to describe the search process for full-time faculty members. These procedures shall anticipate and describe the manner in which all new faculty members will be recruited, including special arrangements for inter-institutional appointments, interdepartmental appointments, and appointments in new academic units. A copy of these procedures shall be filed in the office of the Chancellor.
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 shall reflect the commitment of the institution and the System 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. In principle, the procedures which lead to faculty appointments should hold to standards at least as rigorous as those that pertain to promotions to the same academic ranks.

### **B. OFFERS OF APPOINTMENT**

1. A final offer of appointment can be made only with the approval of the chief executive officer of the institution, 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.

### **C. PROVISIONS RELATED TO APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTION, TENURE, AND PERMANENT STATUS**

1. Tenure status as a member of the faculty of a constituent institution, held concurrently by the chief executive officer of the University is separate and distinct from the administrative office, and such tenure status is governed by the tenure policies of the relevant constituent institution, except that the final written approval is granted by the Chancellor. Those tenure policies have no bearing upon and do not govern the administrative appointment.
2. Tenure status as a member of the faculty of a constituent institution, held concurrently by the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland is separate and distinct from the administrative office, and such tenure status is governed by the tenure policies of the relevant constituent institution, except that the final written approval is granted by the Board of Regents. Those tenure policies have no bearing upon and do not govern the administrative appointment.

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

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

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.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

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

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

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.)

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

- (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 of time. 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 of the 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.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

16. The appointee shall be subject to all applicable policies and procedures duly adopted or amended from time to time by the institution or the University System, 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.

## II. FACULTY RANKS, PROMOTION, TENURE, AND PERMANENT STATUS

### A. 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 Professor”), are for a definite term and do not involve a tenure commitment (i.e., II.C. 2d-2h, 3a-3c, 4a-4g, 5a-5d, 6a-6g).

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this policy, faculty in certain ranks may be granted permanent status. The only faculty ranks which may involve a permanent-status commitment are Library II, Librarian III, and Librarian IV and such other ranks as the Board of Regents may approve. Permanent status may not be granted to an individual holding the rank of Librarian I.

Permanent status is defined as continuing employment such that a decision to remove an employee must be made by the President of the campus and must be justified by cause as defined by USM and campus policy. Permanent status is an employment status different from tenure.

Each institution shall develop criteria and procedures for the review process leading to the granting of promotion and/or permanent status to occur no later than the sixth year of continuous full-time employment. An appointee who has been notified that permanent status 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 permanent status. Permanent status can be awarded only by an affirmative decision based upon a formal review. Individuals who have been granted permanent status under BOR VII-2.15 – POLICY ON LIBRARIANS, which is superseded by this policy, shall retain this status. Appointments of faculty librarians with permanent status may be terminated at any time for cause. Cause shall include moral turpitude, professional or scholarly misconduct, incompetence, and/or willful neglect of duty. In addition to being terminated for cause, faculty engaged exclusively or primarily in library services may be terminated because of the discontinuation 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. Procedures for termination of faculty librarians with permanent status are those that apply to tenured and tenure-track faculty, as described in I.C.6 through I.C.11.

Appointments of faculty librarians who do not have permanent status may be terminated for cause under policies and procedures that apply to non-tenure track faculty.



## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

Subject to the approval of the President or designee, the campus libraries of USM constituent institutions shall develop guidelines, procedures, and appropriate criteria for evaluating librarians' performance. These guidelines, procedures, and criteria should be monitored system-wide to ensure equity with respect to standards.

Every institution shall have written procedures governing the processes on granting promotion and permanent status. Following review for form and legal sufficiency by the Office of the Attorney General, these procedures must be submitted to the Chancellor for review and approval.

A person appointed to the position of Director shall serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the President or his or her designee, regardless of whether the appointee has at the time of the appointment, or obtains during the appointment, permanent status as a librarian.

2. In addition to the ranks listed in II.C (below), there may also be such other faculty ranks as institutions shall define and include in their respective appointment, rank, and tenure policies, subject to the approval of the Board of Regents.
3. Institutions should specify in writing to faculty at the time of appointment the length of appointment and the applicable terms and conditions of the appointment with regard to tenure.

### **B. CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR PROMOTION AND TENURE**

1. The criteria for tenure and promotion in the University of Maryland System are: (1) teaching effectiveness, including student advising; (2) research, scholarship, and, in appropriate areas, creative activities or other activities that result in the generation and application of intellectual property through technology transfer; and (3) relevant service to the community, profession, and institution. The relative weight of these criteria will be determined by the mission of the institution.
2. The activities considered to be within the criteria for promotion and tenure shall be flexible and expansive. The assessment of teaching, research/scholarship/creative activities, and service during the promotion and tenure process shall give appropriate recognition, consistent with the institution's mission, to faculty accomplishments that are collaborative, interdisciplinary, and inter-institutional and to faculty innovations in areas such as undergraduate education, minority-achievement programs, K-16 curriculum development, and technology-enhanced learning.
3. Every institution shall have written procedures governing the promotion and tenure process. Following review for form and legal sufficiency by the Office of the Attorney General, these procedures must be submitted to the Chancellor for review and approval. These procedures shall include, at a minimum, the following:

Criteria: A statement of criteria upon which reviews will be based, and guidelines for appointment or promotion to each academic rank, with recognition that institutional mission is the primary factor that defines these criteria.

Procedures: A description of tenure and/or promotion review procedures, including participants, documentation, degree of confidentiality, schedule of the annual cycle for reviews, and authority for final approval.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

Appeals: A statement of the right of faculty to appeal promotion and tenure decisions, the grounds for such appeals, and a description of appeal procedures.

### C. FACULTY RANKS

Following is a list of all faculty ranks utilized within the University of Maryland System. Specific ranks to be utilized within each constituent institution are to be dependent upon the mission of, and contained within the faculty personnel policies of, that institution.

#### 1. FACULTY WITH DUTIES PRIMARILY IN INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE

a. Instructor: The appointee ordinarily shall hold, at a minimum, the master's degree in the field of instruction, preferably with evidence of pursuit of the doctorate or other terminal degree. There shall be evidence also of potential for effective teaching and for a successful academic career.

b. Assistant Professor: The appointee ordinarily shall hold the doctorate or recognized terminal degree in the field of specialization. The appointee should also show potential for superior teaching, service, and research, scholarship, or creative performance, commensurate with the mission of the institution.

c. Associate Professor: In addition to having the qualifications of an Assistant Professor, the appointee ordinarily shall have had successful experience in teaching and research, scholarship, or creative performance, and, when appropriate to the mission of the institution, be competent to offer graduate instruction and direct graduate research. There shall also be evidence of relevant and effective service to the institution, the community, and the profession.

d. Professor: In addition to having the qualifications of an Associate Professor, the appointee ordinarily shall have established an outstanding record of teaching and research, scholarship or creative performance, and, where appropriate to the mission of the institution, a national reputation. There shall be continuing evidence of relevant and effective service to the institution, the community, and the profession.

#### 2. FACULTY WITH DUTIES PRIMARILY IN RESEARCH

a. Assistant Staff Scientist: The appointee shall hold the doctoral degree in the field of specialization, and shall have indicated promise of a high degree of ability in research in some subdivision of the field.

b. Associate Staff Scientist: In addition to the qualifications of an Assistant Staff Scientist, the appointee shall have had extensive successful experience in research. Since this position may carry permanent tenure, the appointee's scholarly production and professional achievement in research will be thoroughly documented.

c. Senior Staff Scientist: In addition to having the qualifications of an Associate Staff Scientist, the appointee shall have demonstrated a degree of proficiency in research sufficient to establish an excellent national reputation. Appointment to this rank carries tenure.

d. Faculty Research Assistant: The appointee should be capable of assisting in research under the direction of the head of a research project and should have ability and training adequate to the carrying out of the particular techniques required, the assembling of data, and the use and care of any specialized apparatus. A baccalaureate degree shall be the minimum requirement.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

e. Research Associate: The appointee ordinarily should hold the doctoral degree in the field of specialization, or have relatively comparable experience. The appointee should be capable of carrying out individual research or collaborating in group research at the advanced level; should be trained in research procedures; and should have had the experience and specialized training necessary to develop and interpret data required for success in such research projects as may be undertaken. This appointment is made annually, with reappointment possible for a maximum of six years.

f. Research Assistant Professor; Assistant Research Scientist; Assistant Research Scholar; Assistant Research Engineer: This rank is generally parallel to Assistant Professor. In addition to the qualifications of a Research Associate, appointees to this rank should have demonstrated superior research abilities. Appointees should be qualified and competent to direct the work of others (such as technicians, graduate students, other senior research personnel). The doctoral degree will be a normal requirement for appointment at this rank. Initial appointment to this rank is for periods up to three years, and reappointment is possible.

g. Research Associate Professor; Associate Research Scientist; Associate Research Scholar; Associate Research Engineer: This rank is generally parallel to Associate Professor. In addition to the qualifications required of the Assistant ranks, appointees to this rank should have extensive successful experience in scholarly or creative endeavors, and the ability to propose, develop, and manage major research projects. Initial appointment to this rank is for periods up to three years, and reappointment is possible.

h. Research Professor; Senior Research Scientist; Senior Research Scholar; Senior Research Engineer: This rank is generally parallel to Professor. In addition to the qualifications required of the Associate ranks, appointees to this rank should have demonstrated a degree of proficiency sufficient to establish an excellent reputation among regional and national colleagues. Appointees should provide tangible evidence of sound scholarly production in research, publications, professional achievements or other distinguished and creative activity. Initial appointment at this rank is for periods up to five years, and reappointment is possible.

### 3. FIELD FACULTY

a. Associate Agent: The appointee shall hold at least a bachelor's degree, shall qualify for acceptance in a graduate school, and shall show evidence of ability to work with people. The appointee shall have an educational background related to the specific position, and should demonstrate evidence of creative ability to plan and implement Cooperative Extension Service programs. This appointment is made annually, with reappointment possible for a maximum of six years. Attainment of a master's degree in an approved subject area is required before promotion can be considered.

b. Faculty Extension Assistant: The appointee should be capable of assisting in Extension under the direction of the head of an Extension project and should have ability and training adequate to the carrying out of the particular methodology required, the assembling of data, and the use and care of any specialized apparatus. The baccalaureate degree shall be the minimum requirement.

c. Faculty Extension Associate: The appointee should be capable of carrying out individual instruction or collaborating in group discussions at the advanced level; should be trained in Extension procedures; and should have had the experience and specialized training necessary to develop and interpret data required for success in such Extension projects as may be undertaken. An earned doctorate shall be the minimum requirement.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

d. Agent: The appointee must hold a master's degree in an appropriate discipline and show evidence of academic ability and leadership skills. The appointee shall have an educational background related to the specific position.

e. Senior Agent: In addition to the qualifications of an Agent, the appointee must have demonstrated achievement in program development and must have shown originality and creative ability in designing new programs, teaching effectiveness, and evidence of service to the community, institution, and profession. Appointment to this rank may carry tenure.

f. Principal Agent: In addition to the qualifications of a Senior Agent, the appointee must have demonstrated leadership ability and evidence of service to the community, institution, and profession. The appointee must also have received recognition for contributions to the Cooperative Extension Service sufficient to establish a reputation among State, regional and/or national colleagues, and should have demonstrated evidence of distinguished achievement in creative program development. Appointment to this rank carries tenure.

### 4. FACULTY ENGAGED EXCLUSIVELY OR PRIMARILY IN CLINICAL TEACHING

a. Dental School Assistant Professor; Law School Assistant Professor; Medical School Assistant Professor; Nursing School Assistant Professor; Pharmacy School Assistant Professor; Social Work and Community Planning School Assistant Professor: Appointees to this rank shall hold, as a minimum, the terminal professional degree in the field, with training and experience in an area of specialization. There must be clear evidence of a high level of ability in teaching and clinical practice in the departmental field, and the capacity for clinical supervision in a subdivision of this field. Appointees should also have demonstrated scholarly and administrative ability.

b. Dental School Associate Professor; Law School Associate Professor; Medical School Associate Professor; Nursing School Associate Professor; Pharmacy School Associate Professor; Social Work and Community Planning School Associate Professor: In addition to the qualifications required of Assistant Professors in this series, appointees shall ordinarily have had extensive successful experience in clinical or professional practice in a field of specialization, or in a subdivision of the departmental field, and in working with and/or directing others (such as professionals, faculty members, graduate students, fellows, residents, or interns) in clinical activities of the profession. Appointees must also have demonstrated superior teaching ability and scholarly or administrative accomplishments.

c. Dental School Professor; Law School Professor; Medical School Professor; Nursing School Professor; Pharmacy School Professor; Social Work and Community Planning School Professor: In addition to the qualifications required of Associate Professors in this series, appointees shall have demonstrated a degree of excellence in teaching, and

clinical and professional practice sufficient to establish an outstanding regional and national reputation among colleagues. Appointees shall also have demonstrated extraordinary scholarly competence and leadership in the profession.

d. Clinical Instructor: The appointee shall hold, as a minimum, the terminal professional degree in the field. There must be clear evidence of potential in clinical practice and teaching in the departmental field.

e. Clinical Assistant Professor: The appointee shall hold, as a minimum, the terminal professional degree in the field, with training and experience in an area of specialization. There must be clear evidence of a high level of ability in clinical practice and teaching in the departmental field, and the

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

potential for clinical and teaching excellence in a subdivision of this field. The appointee should also have demonstrated scholarly and/or administrative ability.

f. Clinical Associate Professor: In addition to the qualifications required of a Clinical Assistant Professor, the appointee should ordinarily have had extensive successful experience in clinical or professional practice in a field of specialization, or in a subdivision of the departmental field, and in working with and/or directing others (such as professionals, faculty members, graduate students, fellows, and residents or interns) in clinical activities in the field. The appointee must also have demonstrated superior teaching ability and scholarly or administrative accomplishments.

g. Clinical Professor: In addition to the qualifications required of a Clinical Associate Professor, the appointee shall have demonstrated a degree of excellence in clinical practice and teaching sufficient to establish an outstanding regional and national reputation among colleagues. The appointee shall also have demonstrated extraordinary scholarly competence and leadership in the profession.

### 5. FACULTY ENGAGED EXCLUSIVELY OR PRIMARILY IN LIBRARY SERVICES

The only librarian ranks with non-tenure faculty status are Librarian I, Librarian II, Librarian III, and Librarian IV and such other ranks as the Board of Regents may approve. These titles are to be granted to a limited number of appointees who fulfill roles defined by professional graduate training, such as librarian, curator, archivist, and information scientist. In the overwhelming number of instances, the professional graduate training required is an M.L.S. degree, which is considered the terminal degree in the practice of academic librarianship, from the American Library Association (ALA)-accredited program. However, each constituent institution may define instances when other graduate degrees may substitute for or augment the ALA-accredited M.L.S. Such exceptions will be based on and required by the functional needs of USM libraries, appointments to these ranks are normally for twelve months with leave and other benefits provided to twelve-month tenured/tenure-track faculty members, with the exception of terminal leave, sabbatical leave, and non-creditable sick leave (collegially supported).

a. Librarian I: This rank is assigned to librarians just entering librarianship with little or no professional library experience but who have been judged to have demonstrated an understanding of the basic tenets of librarianship and a potential for professional growth. A Librarian I is not eligible for permanent status.

b. Librarian II: Appointment or promotion to this rank signifies that the librarian has demonstrated effective professional knowledge and skills significantly above those expected of a Librarian I. Normally, a minimum of three years of professional experience is required.

c. Librarian III: Appointment or promotion to this rank signifies that the librarian has mastered the skills, knowledge, and techniques of librarianship and has made meaningful contributions to the library, the institution, the library profession, and/or an academic discipline. Normally, a minimum of six years of professional experience is required, three of which must be at a level comparable to the rank of Librarian II at the appointing USM institution.

d. Librarian IV: Appointment or promotion to this rank is exceptional. This rank is awarded to those librarians who have made distinctive contributions to the library, the institution, the library profession, and/or an academic discipline. This rank normally requires a minimum of nine years of professional experience, at least three of which must be at a level comparable to the rank of Librarian III at the appointing USM institution.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

Subject to the approval of the President or designee, the campus libraries of USM constituent institutions shall develop guidelines, procedures, and appropriate criteria for evaluating librarians' performance. These guidelines, procedures, and criteria should be monitored system-wide to ensure equity with respect to standards.

### 6. FACULTY WITH DUTIES PRIMARILY IN INSTRUCTION AT UMUC

a. Collegiate Instructor: The appointee to this non-tenure rank ordinarily should hold, at a minimum, a master's degree appropriate to the area of instruction and have evidence of potential effective teaching. The appointee also should have academic or professional experience relevant to the field.

b. Collegiate Assistant Professor: The appointee to this non-tenure rank ordinarily shall hold, at a minimum, a terminal degree appropriate to the area of instruction. The appointee also should show potential for superior teaching as well as professional experience relevant to the field.

c. Collegiate Associate Professor: In addition to having the qualifications of an Assistant Professor, the appointee to this non-tenure rank ordinarily shall have successful experience in teaching as well as professional experience relevant to the field.

d. Collegiate Professor: In addition to having the qualifications of an Associate

Professor, the appointee to this non-tenure rank ordinarily shall have established an outstanding record of teaching as well as professional experience relevant to the field.

### 7. ADDITIONAL FACULTY RANKS

a. Assistant Instructor: The appointee should be competent to fill a specific position in an acceptable manner, but is not required to meet all the requirements for an Instructor. Appointment to this rank requires at least the appropriate baccalaureate degree.

b. Lecturer: This title may be used for appointment at any salary and experience level of persons who are competent to fill a specific position but who are not intended to be considered for professorial appointment. Appointments to this rank shall be for terms not to exceed three years and are renewable.

c. Senior Lecturer: In addition to having the qualifications of a Lecturer, the appointee shall have completed at least six years as a Lecturer (or in a rank at another institution of higher education that is accepted as comparable to Lecturer), and shall have established a record of teaching excellence and a record of service. Fewer than six years experience may qualify one for this rank if approved by the President or designee. Appointments to this rank shall be for terms not to exceed five years and are renewable.

d. Artist-in-Residence; Writer-in-Residence; Executive-in-Residence: This title may be used to designate temporary appointments, at any salary and experience level, of persons who are serving for a limited time or part-time, and who are not intended to be considered for professorial appointment.

e. Adjunct Assistant Professor; Adjunct Associate Professor; Adjunct Professor: These titles are used to appoint outstanding persons who may be simultaneously employed outside the institution. The appointee should have expertise in the discipline and recognition for accomplishment sufficient to gain the endorsement of the preponderance of the members of the faculty of the department to which he or she is appointed. Appointment is made on a semester or an annual basis and is renewable. These titles do not carry tenure.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

f. Affiliate Assistant Professor; Affiliate Associate Professor; Affiliate Professor: These titles are used to recognize the affiliation of a faculty member or a member of the professional staff with an academic department, program or center when that individual's appointment and salary lie in another department of the institution. The appointment will be made upon the recommendation of the faculty of the department, and at a level commensurate with the appointee's qualifications, consistent with standards established for regular tenure track faculty, although tenure cannot be earned on an affiliated appointment. Each institution shall establish guidelines and procedures for awarding these titles.

g. Visiting Appointments: The prefix "Visiting" before an academic title is used to designate a short-term, full-time appointment without tenure.

h. Emeritus Faculty Appointments: Emeritus status may be bestowed by an institution on the basis of both quality and length of service to the institution. Each institution shall establish guidelines and procedures for awarding this title. Emeritus titles at the System level may be bestowed by the Chancellor.

i. Distinguished University Professor: This title may be bestowed by an institution to provide special recognition to faculty members. Each institution that chooses to utilize this title shall establish guidelines and procedures for awarding it.

j. Professor of the Practice: This title may be used to appoint individuals who have demonstrated excellence in the practice as well as leadership in specific fields. The appointee shall have attained regional and national prominence and, when appropriate, international recognition of outstanding achievement. Additionally, the appointee shall have demonstrated superior teaching ability appropriate to assigned responsibilities. As a minimum, the appointee shall hold the terminal professional degree in the field or equivalent stature by virtue of experience. Appointees will hold the rank of Professor but, while having that stature, will not have rights that are limited to tenured faculty. Initial appointment is for periods up to five years, and reappointment is possible. This title does not carry tenure, nor does time served as a Professor of the Practice count toward achieving tenure in another title. Each institution shall establish guidelines and procedures for awarding this title.

k. [Institution] Professor: This title may be used for nationally distinguished scholars, creative or performing artists, or researchers who would qualify for appointment at a University System of Maryland Institution at the level of Professor, but who normally hold full-time positions outside the University. Holders of this title may provide graduate students supervision, serve as principal investigators, and participate in departmental and college shared governance. Initial appointment is for three years and is renewable annually upon recommendation to the Provost by the unit head and the dean. This is a non-paid non-tenure track title. (*Amended - Paragraph added per BOR June 22, 2005 meeting*)

### III. APPLICABILITY

A. Except as provided in sections B. and C. below, the provisions in this policy shall apply to all individuals who are employed as faculty members in the University of Maryland System as of July 1, 1989, and individuals whose faculty appointment becomes effective on or after July 1, 1989.

B. The provisions in this policy shall not apply to any faculty member who receives notice of non-reappointment at any time prior to July 1, 1989.

## USM Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of the Board of Regents

---

C. Each tenure-track and tenured faculty member of an institution (i.e., a faculty member holding an academic rank specified in the first sentence of paragraph II. A. 1.) shall (1) be apprised of the provisions in Part I.C., paragraphs 1 through 14 of this policy at the earliest practical time following approval of this policy by the Board of Regents, and (2) be offered an opportunity to elect to remain subject to his or her written faculty contract in effect on April 4, 1989, to the extent and only to the extent that any provision of that contract is inconsistent with Part I.C., paragraphs 1 through 14 of this policy. The election shall be confirmed in a written and signed notification to the institution's chief executive officer on or before May 12, 1989. Absent such election by the faculty member, the provisions in Part I.C., paragraphs 1 through 14 of this policy shall apply pursuant to paragraph III. A.

D. Upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, the Chancellor may establish alternative terms and conditions for the faculty of (a) the University of Maryland School of Medicine modifying the following sections of this Policy: I.C.2, I.C.3, I.C.4, I.C.5, I.C.7 (a), II.A.1, II.A.3, and II.C; and (b) the University of Maryland School of Law, modifying sections I.C.3 and I.C.4 of this Policy. The Chancellor shall specify the alternative terms and conditions in writing. Unless an appointee subject to the alternative terms and conditions agrees otherwise, any changes made in the alternative terms and conditions established at the time of that individual's appointment will not apply to that appointee.

For the School of Medicine, the alternative terms and conditions will apply to a tenure track or tenured faculty member appointed as of June 30, 1998, only upon that person's written request received by September 1, 1998. The alternative terms and conditions shall apply to other School of Medicine faculty as follows: all faculty first appointed and employed on or after July 1, 1998; non-tenure track faculty beginning new appointment terms or changing from one type of appointment to another on or after July 1, 1998, effective as of the date of the new or changed appointment; and non-tenure track faculty whose appointments end after June 30, 1998, who so request by September 1, 1998.

For the School of Law, the alternative terms and conditions will apply to tenure track or tenured faculty members appointed on or after July 1, 2008. The alternative terms and conditions will apply to a faculty member appointed between June 1, 2005 and June 30, 2008, only upon that individual's written request to the Dean of the School of Law, submitted no later than September 1, 2008.

Replacement for: BOR VII-2.15 – POLICY ON LIBRARIANS