

Tenure and Promotion Policies, Department of Political Science. Enacted and Revised, August 25, 2006

1. The Department has a single Promotion and Tenure Committee.
2. The Committee consists of all tenured members of the Department, except for the Department Chair, and candidates for promotion. Members of the Department who are tenured but have full-time administrative positions will be ex officio non-voting members. In accord with university nepotism policies, any member or members of the committee with ties of marriage, consanguinity, or similar personal ties with a member being evaluated will recuse themselves from both discussions and voting of promotion decisions. A quorum, as determined by *Roberts Rules of Order*, is required for all votes.
3. The Committee expects each applicant for tenure and/or promotion to submit an updated resume including activities in the areas of teaching, research, and university and community service and recent student evaluations. Professors may submit additional information, including copies of publications, and programs of events in which they have participated but are encouraged not to overwhelm committee members with periphery materials.
4. The Department does not currently have any standards for pre-tenure review other than those adopted by the University as a whole.
5. MTSU requires that individuals promoted to the rank of Professor must have “national recognition.” Most nationally distributed journals within political science are published by regional political science associations or by major subfields within the discipline. These peer-reviewed journals are directed to national audiences and feature contributors from throughout the nation. The Department therefore recognizes multiple publications in such refereed journals as a sign of national or international recognition.

Faculty can also achieve recognition through the authorship, co-authorship, and/or editorship of books by academic and/or major trade publishers including textbooks that are nationally distributed. Published reviews of authored and edited books can be especially useful in demonstrating their reception by colleagues at other institutions.

The Department will further consider: service on regional, national, or international boards; invitations to contribute substantive chapters to edited books; external grants or awards; service on editorial boards of peer-reviewed journals; invited lectures to other universities and research institutions; consistent presentations at regional or national conferences; or any other relevant documentation that faculty members choose to provide.

However commendable, the Department does not consider book reviews, short essays in reference books, presentations at state conferences, attendance at regional and national meetings, and similar contributions by themselves as signs of national recognition.

Approved by Department Committee: August 25, 2006

Approved by Dean: September 25, 2006

Approved by Provost: