Tenure & Promotion Information Forum

October 15, 2025 Office of Faculty Affairs



Presenters

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Acting Executive Vice President & Provost

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Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

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Faculty and administrators have a shared responsibility to ensure:

- Best practice in tenure and promotion evaluation
- Clarity in standards and procedures for tenure and promotion evaluation
- Consistency in tenure and promotion decisions
- Candor in the evaluation of faculty



How Do I Learn about the Tenure and Promotion Process at UNLV?

- Familiarize yourself with the documents about the process and the resources on the Office of Faculty Affairs (OFA) website: https://www.unlv.edu/ofa/processes/tenure-promotion
- Speak with your peers, mentors, and chairs in your department/college/unit.
- Speak with Faculty Senate representatives and department/college tenure and promotion committee members.
- Attend the Tenure and Promotion Forum meetings.
- Direct your questions to the OFA, particularly about how to navigate the process.

Things to Consider as You Prepare for Tenure and/or Promotion:

- Documents:
 - a. Unit Tenure and Promotion Guidelines & Bylaws
 - For tenure and promotion, bylaws at time of hire
 - For promotion, bylaws at time of application
 - See UNLV Bylaws Chapter 3, Section 16
 - b. Offer Letter
- Log scholarly and service activities in UNLV Folio as you complete them.
- Office of Faculty Affairs Tenure and Promotion <u>webpage</u> and <u>Tenure and Promotion Guide</u>



Bylaws Governing Tenure and Promotion:

The tenure and/or promotion process is outlined in Title 2 of the NSHE Board of Regents Handbook ("the Code") and the UNLV Bylaws.

Per UNLV Bylaws Chapter 3, Section 6.1, the faculty of each academic department/unit must establish its own procedures and criteria for all personnel recommendations in accordance with college/school and departmental/unit bylaws.

Within the UNLV Bylaws policies on tenure, promotion, and other relevant matters are found in:

- Chapter 1, Section 4.3: "Tenure"
- Chapter 3, Section 6: "Personnel Recommendations for Academic Faculty"
- Chapter 3, Section 8: "Annual Evaluation of Academic Faculty"
 and Nonacademic Faculty"
- Chapter 3, Section 9: "Faculty Personnel Files"
- Chapter 3, Section 16: "Guidelines for Promotion or Appointment to Academic Rank for Academic Faculty"
- Chapter 3, Section 18: "Guidelines for Rank 0 and Unranked Positions"



Who evaluates the application (and how)?

Only tenured and tenure-track faculty, as well as faculty in residence, research faculty, clinical faculty, and lecturers may attend or serve on departmental/unit personnel committees at which recommendations for promotion, tenure, merit or annual evaluations will be made, or vote in such meetings, subject to the exceptions detailed.



Who evaluates the application (and how)?

Excluded from serving are department or school chairs and directors, assistant and associate deans, deans, vice and associate provosts, and provost and all other executive faculty as defined in the Board of Regents handbook, University Bylaws, or as designated by the President.



As outlined in UNLV Bylaws Chapter 3, Section 6:

- Only tenured faculty may vote on applications for tenure.
- Only tenured faculty of a rank equal to or higher than that to which the applicant aspires may vote on applications of tenured faculty for promotion.
- All academic faculty of an equal or higher rank to which the applicant aspires may vote on applications of nontenure-track faculty for promotion.





Office of

FACULTY AFFAIRS

Tenure and/or Promotion Workflow (Tenure-Track) in UNLV Folio

STEP1

Chair/Supervisor solicits external reviews and submits:

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External Review Summary form Chair/Supervisor sends the case forward

STEP

Department Chair/Director reviews case materials and Department Chair/Director submits:

 Chair Evaluation form Department Chair/Director sends the case forward

STEP5

Dean reviews case materials and Dean submits:

 Dean Evaluation form Dean sends the case forward

STEP7

Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost reviews case materials and sends recommendation to the President. Decision becomes final after approval by the NSHE Board of Regents.



START

Faculty member submits their application packet.

STEP2

Department Committee reviews case materials and Department Committee Chair/Manager submits:

Department/Unit Review form

Department Committee Chair/Manager sends the case forward

STEP

College Committee reviews case materials and College Committee Chair/Manager submits:

 College Evaluation form College Committee Chair/Manager sends the case forward

STEP

University T&P Committee reviews case materials and University T&P Committee Chair/Manager submits:

University Committee
 Evaluation form
 University T&P Committee
 Chair/Manager sends the
 case forward





Promotion Workflow (Non-Tenure Track) in UNLV Folio

STEP1

Chair/Supervisor solicits external reviews and submits:

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External Review
Summary form
Chair/Supervisor sends
the case forward

STEP

Department Chair/Director reviews case materials and Department Chair/Director submits:

 Chair Evaluation form Department Chair/Director sends the case forward

STEP5

Dean reviews case materials and Dean submits:

 Dean Evaluation form Dean sends the case forward



Faculty member submits their application packet.

STEP2

Department Committee reviews case materials and Department Committee Chair/Manager submits:

Department/Unit Review form

Department Committee Chair/Manager sends the case forward

STEP4

College Committee reviews case materials and College Committee Chair/Manager submits:

 College Evaluation form College Committee Chair/Manager sends the case forward

STEP6

Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost reviews case materials. Decision becomes final after approval by the Executive Vice President and Provost.



Under what standards are candidates evaluated?

The UNLV Bylaws require departments to establish unit-specific guidelines for the awarding of tenure and/or promotion:

Each department, school, and college shall establish standards and criteria for peer evaluation of faculty eligible for tenure or promotion in compliance with the requirements of the NSHE Code, the UNLV Bylaws, and its college or equivalent school bylaws.

Standards and criteria are created by the faculty of the unit and are subject to approval at the appropriate administrative channels and by the President. Criteria not detailed in the Code and pertinent bylaws and approved by the President may not be used (Chapter 3, Section 16.2.1).

Evaluation Criteria:

For tenure-track and non-tenure-track faculty (annual evaluations and tenure and promotion):

- Excellent
- Commendable
- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory

For tenured faculty (annual evaluations and promotion):

- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory

The bylaws for each department/college/unit will provide details about the standards related to the evaluation criteria



Can tenure review be delayed or accelerated?

The <u>Flexibility of Pre-Tenure Probationary Period Policy</u> is intended to provide career flexibility as well as protections when events that significantly impact productivity may occur (e.g., mid-year appointments, natural disasters, facility impediments, or personal or family demands that afford protection under the Family Medical Leave Act).

Candidates can also request early tenure, with the provision that, per the current bylaws (Chapter 3, Section 17.2), this is only granted in "exceptional circumstances."

If Tenure Is Denied:

- After official notification, applicant may request reasons, and the administrator responds
- Applicant may ask for reconsideration providing additional information
- Reconsideration moves through the administrative process
- President makes final decision



If Reconsideration Is Denied:

- UNLV Bylaws allow appeal to the Grievance Committee
- Faculty Senate Bylaws detail process: elected committee conducts hearings
- Recommendation to Provost, who makes recommendation to President
- President makes final decision



Performance Evaluations

Annual Evaluations

(Every Spring)

Mid-Tenure/ Promotion Reviews

(3rd year)

Tenure & Promotion

(Process begins in 5th year)



TENURE & PROMOTION: TIMELINE (TENURE-TRACK)

JANUARY-FEBRUARY	Discuss your intent to apply for tenure and/or promotion Provide the list of potential external reviewers to your chair
MARCH	Office of Faculty Affairs notified by chair or dean's office to create the case in UNLV Folio
MAY 1	Candidate submits materials for the external reviewers
SEPTEMBER	1 (or when the department begins their review): last day candidate may add/edit materials. <i>Enforced.</i>
	Reviews conducted by department committee, department chair, college committee, and dean
FIRST FRIDAY IN OCT	Deans should send the cases to the University Tenure and Promotion Committee. Cases due to the Provost in early Dec.
DECEMBER-MARCH	Provost and President review cases
MARCH	Board of Regents confirm decisions
JULY 1	Decision becomes effective

PROMOTION: TIMELINE (NONTENURE-TRACK)

JANUARY-FEBRUARY	Discuss your intent to apply for promotion Provide the list of potential external reviewers to your chair (if required)
MARCH-SEPTEMBER	Office of Faculty Affairs notified to create the case in UNLV Folio
SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER	Reviews conducted by department committee, department chair, college committee, and dean
JANUARY 15	Deans submit cases (with all recommendations) to the Office of Faculty Affairs
JULY 1	Decision becomes effective



UNLV Folio - Candidate Materials

THE TENURE AND/OR PROMOTION APPLICATION PACKET CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

- Faculty180 Vita
- 2. Opening Statement
- 3. Synopsis
- 4. Curriculum Vitae
- 5. External Waiver Release*
- 6. Research/Creative Portfolio*
- 7. Teaching*
- 8. Performance Evaluations
- Tenure and Promotion Guidelines
- Role Statement (specific to NTT Promotion Applications)
- 11. Tenure Flexibility Request (if applicable)
- 12. Additional Materials*

*If required by the unit.

PLEASE VISIT <u>Applying for Tenure</u> and/or <u>Promotion</u> FOR A DESCRIPTION OF EACH OF THESE SECTIONS.



UNLV Folio - Resources and Training



GET ONE-ON-ONE HELP

Book a one-on-one appointment with the UNLV FOLIO Support Team (inperson or virtually).

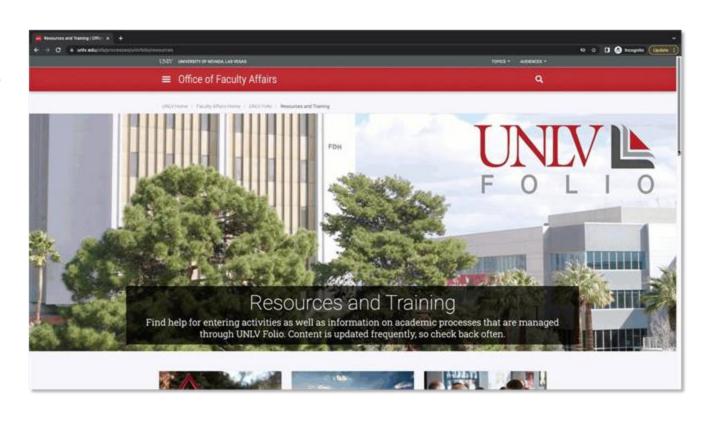
CONTACT US

Send us an email at unlvfolio@unlv.edu.

USER GUIDES & VIDEOS

Visit our UNLV FOLIO
Resources & Training page.

Check out the available resources we have.





Final Thoughts

Plan Ahead for Tenure and Promotion:

- Mark your calendars for when you are eligible to apply for tenure and promotion.
- Familiarize yourself with the documents surrounding the tenure and promotion process.
- Make use of resources available at the Office of Faculty Affairs (OFA).
- Gather department and/or college specific materials that apply to you.
- Understand the evaluation criteria and standards of performance appropriate for your rank and to your discipline.

UNLV wishes you to be successful in your academic career and wants to recognize your excellence and achievements through the tenure and promotion process.

Questions?

Office of Faculty Affairs faculty affairs unly.edu

Tenure & Promotion Resources

2025-2026 Tenure and Promotion Guide UNLV Folio Login

<u>Tenure & Promotion: Information for Candidates</u>
<u>UNLV Folio: Resources & Trainings</u>

<u>Tenure & Promotion: Information for Reviewers</u>
<u>UNLV Folio: Book Appointment</u>

