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INTRODUCTION

The Academic Policies and Procedures Manual serves as a reference for University faculty and is a supplement to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual and the Board of Regents Policy Manual. This Manual is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute an employment contract. It contains information about employment conditions, opportunities, policies, and procedures. It is to be used as a working guide throughout employment at Rogers State University (RSU). In the event of a conflict between this Manual and the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual controls, as to faculty issues. In the event of a conflict between this Manual and the Board of Regents Policy Manual, the Board of Regents Policy Manual controls. While policies and procedures have been established to provide guidance for University administrators and employees, the policies herein shall not be construed to limit or abrogate the rights of Rogers State University or its employees under the employment-at-will relationship.

In the event of disagreement or misunderstanding of any item presented in this manual, the official interpretation rests with the President of Rogers State University, or if the item is a Board of Regents’ policy, with the Board of Regents.

The University retains the right to revise or update any of the provisions in this Manual at any time. Any portion of this Manual which is determined to be invalid is severable from the other policies and statements in the Manual and does not invalidate the entire Manual.

For purposes of this document, references to Rogers State University, RSU, the University, and the Institution should be considered one and the same.

The State of Oklahoma is an at-will employer, and the University, as a constitutionally created entity of higher education of the State, also employs at-will. The contents included in this manual in no way modify or amend the right of the University as an at-will employer in originating or terminating employment of human resources. At-will employment is for no specified term and is terminable at the will of either the employee or employer. Further, promises or representations made by anyone concerning the conditions of employment, express or implied, do not negate the right of the University to terminate employment at any time, with or without cause.

All references to “Board” listed in this manual refer to the Board of Regents of The University of Oklahoma unless specified otherwise.

1.1 GOVERNANCE

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education coordinate the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, including all Oklahoma institutions of higher education supported wholly or in part by legislative appropriation. The board’s nine members are appointed by the Governor with the approval of the Oklahoma Senate for nine-year terms, one expiring each year. This board has broad powers to determine courses of study, establish standards, confer degrees and other forms of academic recognition for the completion of prescribed courses, present to the legislature the budget recommendations of each state institution, and allocate funds to these institutions.
The official governing body of Rogers State University is the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma. The Board of Regents is comprised of seven citizens appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the State Senate. Each Regent serves a seven-year term. This Board acts upon personnel, operations, and financial matters submitted by the University President.

1.2 ACCREDITATION

Rogers State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

1.3 MISSION

1.3.1 Mission Statement and Objectives

Our mission is to ensure students develop the skills and knowledge required to achieve professional and personal goals in dynamic local and global communities.

Our objectives, which support the RSU mission, are as follows:

1. To provide quality associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degree opportunities and educational experiences which foster student excellence in oral and written communications, scientific reasoning, and critical and creative thinking.
2. To promote an atmosphere of academic and intellectual freedom and respect for diverse expression in an environment of physical safety that is supportive of teaching and learning.
3. To provide a general liberal arts education that supports specialized academic programs and prepares students for lifelong learning and service in a diverse society.
4. To provide students with a diverse, innovative faculty dedicated to excellence in teaching, scholarly pursuits, and continuous improvement of programs.
5. To provide University-wide student services, activities, and resources that complement academic programs.
6. To support and strengthen student, faculty, and administrative structures that promote shared governance of the institution.
7. To promote and encourage student, faculty, staff, and community interaction in a positive academic climate that creates opportunities for cultural, intellectual, and personal enrichment for the University and the communities it serves.

1.3.2 Mission and Outcomes for General Education

Mission of General Education:

General Education at Rogers State University provides a broad foundation of intellectual skills, knowledge, and perspectives to enable students across the University to achieve professional and personal goals in a dynamic local or global society.
General Education Outcomes:

Acknowledging that critical and creative thinking are encouraged by all of the following, the specific student outcomes for General Education are to:

1. Acquire and evaluate information
2. Analyze and integrate knowledge
3. Develop perspectives and an understanding of the human experience
4. Communicate effectively
2.1 UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATION

President

Executive Assistant to the President

Student Government Association

Director Public Information

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Assistant Vice President for Accountability and Academic

Dean School of Liberal Arts

Dean School of Business and Technology

Dean School of Mathematics, Science & Health Sciences

Provost & COO Bartlesville

Chair Faculty Senate

Director Innovation Center

Business Development Specialist

Executive Director Enrollment Management

Director Admissions

Director Financial Aid

Registrar

General Manager Public Broadcasting Services

Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management

Director Physical Plant

Director Pryor

Director Library

Director Center for Teaching and Learning

Director Honors Program

Exec. Vice President for Administration & Finance

Comptroller/Assistant Vice President for Business Affairs

Accounting

Employments & Benefits

Payroll

Purchasing

Auxiliary Services

Bursar

Campus Police

Director Academic Computing Services

Director RSU Alumni

Director Administrative Computing Services

Director Major Gifts and Research

Director Annual Giving and Special Events

Database Manager - Administrative Assistant

Executive Director OMA Alumni

Bit by Bit

Director Information Technology

Coordinator Disability Services

Coordinator Career Services

Coordinator Student Activities

Director Student Development

Assistant Athletic Director for Media Relations & Communications

Director Athletics

Assistant Athletic Director

Assistant Athletic Director for Student Development

Men's Basketball Coach
Women's Basketball Coach
Baseball Coach
Softball Coach
Soccer Coach
Golf Coach
Athletic Trainer
Cross Country Coach

Athletic Compliance Coordinator
2.2 ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dean of Business and Technology
  - Department Head: Applied Technology
  - Department Head: Business
  - Department Head: Sport Management

Dean of Liberal Arts
  - Department Head: Communications
  - Department Head: English and Humanities
  - Department Head: Fine Arts
  - Department Head: History and Political Science
  - Department Head: Psychology, Sociology, and Criminal Justice

Dean of Mathematics, Science, and Health Sciences
  - Department Head: Biology
  - Department Head: Health Sciences
  - Department Head: Mathematics and Physical Sciences

Dean of Fine Arts

Dean of School of Business and Technology

Dean of School of Liberal Arts

Dean of School of Mathematics, Science, and Health Sciences
2.3 UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

2.3.1 STANDING COMMITTEES

Faculty membership on standing University committees will be determined on a yearly basis by the Faculty Senate’s Committee on Committees (hereinafter the “Committee”) in accordance with these broad philosophical guidelines: each School will be represented on each committee, except as specified in the following descriptions; each faculty member will be allowed to express preferences for membership on committees; each faculty representative will be a full-time faculty member (Department Heads are eligible for appointment); faculty will serve on no more than two University committees. Service on a University, school or department committee is an important component of service to the University.

Committees will select a day and time for their meetings. Any faculty not able to meet at a time or place agreed upon by the majority will ask their dean or senator to recommend another person to the committee and inform the Faculty Senate.

Membership on committees is three years. To facilitate scheduling, all terms for a given School will expire in rotation. At the first meeting of each year, the committee members will select a chair, secretary, and other officers as they deem appropriate.

Each committee chair will ensure that correct procedures are followed, based upon Robert’s Rules of Order and will forward minutes to the Secretary of the Faculty Senate, and to the university webmaster.

Selection Procedure

University committee assignments for the following academic year will be made in the spring. Faculty hired subsequent to the process will be assigned membership in the fall.

- In February, the Senate will ask each faculty member for a statement on which committee(s) he/she prefers membership.
- In March, the “Committee” will meet to select members for University committees, basing that selection on its own guidelines (see below) and on the skills, experience, expertise, and preferences of the faculty member and the needs of each committee.
- Between April 15 and May 1, members of committees will be notified of seating in writing.

2.3.1.1 Academic Policies Review Committee

Function: Receive, initiate and review all academic policies, including those contained in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual.

Membership: At least six appointed senior School faculty, ideally three Faculty Senate members.

Recommendations: Through the Faculty Senate to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.2 Assessment Committee
Function: Design and implement an assessment process that will ensure quality instruction.

Membership: A representative from each department and the Assistant Vice President for Accountability and Academics, who will serve as ex-officio member of the committee.

Recommendations: Through the Faculty Senate to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.3 University Curriculum Committee
Function: Review and make recommendations regarding proposed curriculum and/or program changes.

Membership: A representative from each department. Faculty should be senior (at least five years at RSU) whenever possible.

Recommendations: To the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.4 Library Committee
Function: Advise the Schools, Library Services, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs as to the library needs as they fit into the academic program, as to the development of library resources, and as to means of integrating the library function into a total University program.

Membership: At least six appointed School faculty and the Director of Library Services. The Director of Library Services will be a voting member of the committee.

Recommendations: Through the Faculty Senate to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.5 Faculty Development Committee
Function: Investigate, plan, and implement faculty activities in order to provide opportunities for the enhancement of teaching and professional skills.

Membership: At least six appointed School faculty and the Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning. The Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning will be a voting member of the committee.
Recommendations: Through the Faculty Senate to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.6 Committee on Student Conduct

Function: Hear appeals of non-academic misconduct cases resulting in interim suspension, suspension, or expulsion. Issues concerning non-academic student conduct will be addressed in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Student Code of Responsibilities and Conduct, Title 14, Non-Academic Code of Conduct.

Any act by a properly constituted committee, where at least five members of the committee (one of whom must be a student) are present, will be binding.

Membership: The committee will be composed of three faculty members (including one from each school) appointed by the Faculty Senate, two staff members appointed by the University President, and two students recommended by the Student Government Association and approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Recommendations: To the University President.

Meetings: As called by the Vice President for Student Affairs.

2.3.1.7 Committee on Academic Integrity

Function: Promote academic integrity by: 1) providing members to serve on the Academic Misconduct Board and the Grade Appeal Board (see Student Code Title 12 and Title 13), 2) consulting with faculty and students about matters pertaining to academic integrity; and 3) reviewing the Code of Academic Conduct and proposing changes as needed. Issues concerning Academic Integrity will be addressed in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Code of Academic Conduct.

Membership: Full-time faculty members, two from each School, and three students recommended by the Student Government Association and approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs

Recommendations: The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for all forms, files and administrative activities related to this Committee.

Meetings: As called by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

2.3.1.8 Faculty Appellate Committee

Function: Hear appeals from faculty members 1) whose application for promotion has been disapproved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, or 2) who believe that tenure procedures were violated or 3) who appeal a pending severe sanction. The recommendation of the committee will be based on majority vote. The committee chair will have the right to vote only in order to break a tie.
Membership: Nine tenured faculty members, three from each School, appointed by the Faculty Senate. A quorum will be five members or a majority of qualified members of the committee.

Recommendations: To the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: As needed to consider appeals filed by faculty.

**2.3.1.9 Enrollment Management Committee**

Function: Make recommendations regarding policies and procedures related to marketing, recruitment, admissions, registration, financial aid, and retention.

Membership: At least three faculty as appointed by the Faculty Senate (one from each School), the Executive Director of Enrollment Management, the Director of Admissions, the Director of Financial Aid, and one representative each from the Bartlesville and Pryor campuses as appointed by the senior campus officer. All will be voting members.

Recommendations: To the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

**2.3.1.10 Strategic Planning Committee**

Function: Design and implement a process to ensure the University identifies and maintains an optimal alignment with the most important elements of its environment. The strategic planning process will result in: 1) recommended basic short and long range goals for RSU, and 2) objectives to achieve the identified goals.

Membership: The President will appoint all members to the committee, including at least three full-time faculty members, one per School, as recommended by the Faculty Senate.

Recommendations: To the University President

Meetings: As called by the President.

**2.3.1.11 Academic Technology Committee**

Function: Make recommendations on the evaluation, acquisition, and use of technology in scholarship and instruction. The committee will consider policies and procedures pertaining to the areas of distance learning technology, telecommunications, campus network, university computer labs, computer hardware and software, and other technology.

Membership: At least six appointed School faculty and a representative from each of the following areas will be appointed by the administrator of the area to serve as a voting member of the committee: Center for Teaching and Learning, Library, Pryor Campus, and Bartlesville Campus. The Director of Information Technology will serve as an ex-officio member.

Recommendations: To the Vice President for Academic Affairs
Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.12 Scholarly Activities Committee

Function: Encourage research and creative activities among members of the faculty and students. The committee will review research and creative activity proposals in order to determine recommendations for internal grant funding.

Membership: At least six appointed faculty, two per School

Recommendations: To the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.13 Distance Education Committee

Function: Make recommendations for policies and procedures regarding all aspects of distance education

Membership: At least six appointed faculty, two per School and the Director for The Center for Teaching and Learning. The Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning will serve as a voting member.

Recommendations: Through the Faculty Senate to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.3.1.14 University Honors Program Committee

Function: Make recommendations involving all aspects of the Honors Program, particularly including Honors curriculum development, modification, and implementation.

Membership: The Director of Academic Enrichment, six additional faculty chosen by the Faculty Senate, and one member each from the Foundation, Student Activities, and the Office of Admissions. The Director of Academic Enrichment will chair the Committee.

2.3.1.15 General Education Committee

Function: Provide oversight of all aspects of general education, including assessing and evaluating the general education program, recommending improvements, reviewing all general education proposals, and reporting annually on the effectiveness of general education. Coordinate with other standing committees (particularly Assessment, Curriculum, and Distance Education) as appropriate.

Membership: At least nine appointed faculty, with at least two from each School. Faculty should have significant general education teaching experience and/or assessment experience whenever possible.
Recommendations: Through the Faculty Senate to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Meetings: Per 2.3.1 above.

2.4 ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Function: The Academic Council is the principal advisory body for the Vice President for Academic Affairs on academic and other matters of importance to the University. When recommendations are forwarded to the Vice President for Academic Affairs by the Faculty Senate or a standing faculty committee, the Vice President will bring the recommendation before the Academic Council for consideration. In that case, the appropriate committee chair may be asked to attend and present the recommendation to the Academic Council, provide background, and engage in dialogue with the Academic Council membership during its deliberation. All recommendations accepted by the Academic Council and the Vice President for Academic Affairs will be forwarded to the President for consideration. The Academic Council may consider and make recommendations to the Vice President for Academic Affairs concerning any academic matter that is not an assigned function of one of the faculty committees.

Membership: The Academic Council’s membership will include all School deans, all academic department heads, the Chair of the Faculty Senate, the Executive Director of Enrollment Management, the Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Director of the Stratton Taylor Library, the Director of the Pryor campus, the Provost of the Bartlesville campus, the Assistant Vice President for Accountability and Academics, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will chair the Council.

Procedures: Upon receipt of a recommendation and after presentation by the respective chair of the committee, the Academic Council will engage in dialogue and give due consideration to said recommendation. The Academic Council will consider said recommendation and decide on its recommendation to the Vice President on the basis of a simple majority vote. The chair of the respective committee will not participate in the vote.

If the Academic Council and the Vice President agree with the recommendation, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will attach comments to the recommendation and forward these items to the President.

If the recommendation is rejected, a conference committee will be formed consisting of three members of the Academic Council as selected by the Vice President for Academic Affairs and three members of the recommending committee selected by the appropriate committee chair. The conference committee will select a chair and will take the recommendation under advisement. The committee will review the recommendations for alterations, additions, and deletions.

Should the conference committee approve an amended version of the recommendation, it will be sent back to the initiating committee to be accepted or rejected by a majority vote. If accepted, it will be forwarded once again, through the Faculty Senate as appropriate, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. If rejected, the recommendation will not be forwarded.
Should a majority of the conference committee fail to approve an amended version of the recommendation, the conference committee will report in writing the impasse to both the Academic Council and the initiating committee.

Should the conference committee fail to reach a compromise, or should either the initiating committee or Academic Council fail to accept the amended version from the conference committee, the initiating committee has two alternatives:

1) Terminate the recommendation OR

2) Refer the original recommendation through the Faculty Senate as appropriate to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who will then review with the Academic Council and forward to the President with all comments for acceptance or rejection. This action requires a two-thirds majority vote of the originating committee. Such action must be completed within 15 days from the date that the originating committee or the Academic Council rejected the conference committee’s recommendation, or 15 days from the date that the conference committee reported an impasse. The originating committee’s recommendation to the President will be accompanied by comments and recommendations by the conference committee, the originating committee, and the Academic Council. The President will then make the final decision on the recommendation.
FACULTY PERSONNEL POLICIES

The Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma (OU) is vested with the governance of the University. Within its authority is the governance of all faculty personnel matters, including without limitation, appointments, evaluations, academic misconduct, grievances, and academic appeals.

It is the policy of Rogers State University to recognize and implement the functions assigned to it by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. These functions include teaching; research and other creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement. The responsibility for carrying out this policy is shared by the Board of Regents, administrative officers, and the regular faculty.

3.1 FACULTY MEMBERSHIP

The faculty is composed of the regular faculty and the supplemental faculty. These individuals have an instructional or research relationship to the University, either direct or supervisory. The faculty includes permanent and temporary, full-time and part-time personnel.

3.1.1 Regular Faculty

The Regular Faculty of the University is composed of all faculty members with regular appointments including non-tenure track, tenure track, and tenured appointments at the ranks of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, and professor.

Appointments to the regular faculty are made by the OU Board of Regents. Consideration for appointment by the Board is given after recommendation by the University President.

3.1.1.1 Types of Regular Faculty Appointments

The regular faculty holds one of four types of appointments:

**Tenured** - A tenured appointment is reserved for those regular faculty members who have been granted tenure by the Board of Regents upon recommendation of the President. In granting tenure to a faculty member, the University makes a commitment to the faculty member’s continued employment, subject to certain qualifications. The procedures for granting tenure and dismissal of tenured faculty are covered in this manual. Tenured faculty members appointed to administrative positions retain the tenure and rank that was previously granted when they were non-administrative faculty members. An administrator may not hold tenure by virtue of an appointment to an administrative position, unless specifically granted by the Board of Regents, but may attain and hold tenure as a member of the regular faculty.

**Tenure Track** - Regular faculty holding the rank of professor, associate professor, or assistant professor may be tenure track appointments.* Tenure track appointments are for one (1) academic year beginning August 1 and ending May 30. Action on reappointment is initiated by the academic department head through the respective dean to the Vice President for Academic Affairs,
President, and Board of Regents. Notification of non-reappointment shall be given in writing by the Vice President for Academic Affairs no later than March 1.

* Faculty members transitioning to Rogers State University from its predecessor institution, Rogers University, were allowed to elect a non-tenure track appointment irrespective of their academic rank by doing so not later than February 1, 2000 for the academic year beginning August 1, 2000 and succeeding years. Faculty may achieve the rank of assistant professor and remain non-tenure track.

**Non-Tenure Track** - A non-tenure track appointment is one in which the faculty member is appointed to the regular faculty but is not eligible to receive tenure. Faculty members below the rank of assistant professor have non-tenure track appointments (instructor is a non-tenure track appointment). Non-tenure track appointments are for one (1) academic year beginning August 1 and ending May 30. Action on reappointment is initiated by the academic department head through the respective dean to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, President, and Board of Regents. Notification of non-reappointment shall be given in writing by the Vice President for Academic Affairs no later than March 1.

**Temporary** - A temporary appointment is one in which the faculty member is appointed to the regular faculty for a period of one year or less. Upon completion of the temporary appointment, the position, if continued, will be opened and advertised.

### 3.1.2 Supplemental Faculty

The President or the President’s designee makes appointments to the supplemental faculty as required to meet the University’s needs. Appointments to the supplemental faculty may not require Board approval. These appointments are limited to specific duties and a specific period of time. Supplemental faculty are not entitled to notification of non-reappointment.

#### 3.1.2.1 Types of Supplemental Faculty Appointments

The supplemental faculty consists of:

**Adjunct Faculty** - Adjunct faculty hold part-time, temporary appointments for a semester or session. The rank of such faculty may be adjunct instructor or lecturer. Adjunct faculty will be limited to teaching nine (9) hours or less per semester or session.

**Visiting Faculty** - Visiting faculty are employed by the University to teach or perform research for a limited time and are on leave of absence from another institution of higher education or professional practice. Visiting faculty may be appointed at any rank.

**Volunteer Faculty** – a person, who has special talents or expertise, and whose time and services are donated, may be appointed to the University volunteer faculty. Volunteer faculty who meet the educational qualifications may hold academic rank.
Clinical Supervisors - Clinical supervisors are not employees of the University. They are practitioners who are assigned regular and continuing responsibilities in the clinical setting.

3.1.3 Summer Teaching Faculty

The University President or the President’s designee makes appointments for the Summer Session as required to meet the University’s needs. These appointments do not require Board approval. An appointment to the summer faculty is limited to the specific summer for which the appointment is made.

3.1.4 Full- and Part-Time Appointments

Full-Time Appointments - Full-time faculty have instructional and non-instructional duties as assigned by the University. Instructional duties include but are not limited to the teaching of assigned classes, evaluating the students in the classes, and meeting with those students who require assistance in their classes. Non-instructional duties include but are not limited to conducting research and other creative/scholarly activities, advising students, serving on committees, sponsoring organizations, continuing certification and participating in professional and University service and community engagement. A full-time faculty member should generally carry an instructional load of twelve (tenure-track) to fifteen (nontenure-track) hours per semester and a non-instructional equivalent load of three to six hours per semester so that the full-time load is the equivalent of eighteen hours per semester. Any exceptions are to be approved through appropriate channels.

Joint Appointments - Appointments between two or more academic units or colleges or universities are encouraged when they are of mutual benefit. However, they (a) must not total more than 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) and (b) must be approved by all the units and colleges or universities involved. Such appointments must have the approval of the appropriate administrative officials of all units involved and one academic unit and college shall have primary responsibility for promotion and tenure consideration. Faculty cannot receive remuneration from two institutions when it will result in an assignment greater than 1.0 FTE.

Adjunct Appointments - Adjunct appointments are temporary appointments made for one semester or session only and involve instructional duties for certain course sections only. Compensation is determined at the University level. Adjunct faculty will be limited to nine hours per semester or session.

3.2 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE FACULTY

Above all else, the University exists for learning and scholarship of a breadth and depth that result in excellence in teaching; research and other creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement. Each academic unit has an obligation to contribute to each of these. Faculty members play a central role in the realization of the obligations of the academic unit by contributing their unique expertise and competence. Decisions regarding tenure, promotions, and salary increases are based upon an assessment of the faculty member’s performance and contributions to the total mission of the University.
3.2.1 Teaching

Effective teaching is demonstrated through mastery of a current knowledge base in subject matter taught at an appropriate student level. Such teaching stimulates achievement and practical personal applications by students. A continual review of current literature, research, and strategies is necessary for effective teaching. An effective teacher evidences mastery by thoroughly integrating skills and knowledge, sensitivity, and perception with the presentation of subject matter.

Effective teaching is characterized by (1) subject matter mastery, (2) curriculum development, (3) course design, (4) delivery of instruction, (5) assessment of instruction and revision as necessary, (6) availability to students, and (7) fulfillment of instructional administrative responsibilities.

Effectiveness will be documented by department head and dean evaluations, and student evaluation of instruction as well as other methods such as peer evaluation and program assessment of majors.

3.2.2 Research and Other Creative/Scholarly Activity

Research and other creative/scholarly activity are demonstrated by the active involvement of a faculty member in the pursuit of new knowledge in his/her academic field or discipline. While the scope and nature of faculty research and other creative/scholarly activity will vary among departments, University faculty will be involved in creative/scholarly activities, individually and collaboratively, which advance the knowledge base and performance levels of their respective fields. Both the pursuit of new knowledge and the application and dissemination of knowledge in creative ways are valued. Both the quality and quantity of productivity are considered in assessing the contributions and performances.

Examples of research and creative/scholarly activity are adaptations of knowledge to the learning environment, development of marketable instructional materials, creative artistic works evaluated by juries or panels, invitation for professional presentations or performances, articles in refereed or editor-evaluated publications, successful grantsmanship, selected unpublished research, books, monographs, inventions, patented or copyrighted products, etc.

3.2.3 Professional and University Service and Community Engagement

Professional and University service and community engagement occur when faculty members apply professional expertise to advance the University and profession. Professional and University service include contributions to the institution and to the profession. These contributions should be consistent with the educational needs of the student body and the mission and objectives of the University.

University service may consist of academic student advisement, departmental management, public relations, classroom, studio, or other physical facility management, personnel management, equipment and supplies management, fiscal management, time management, sponsorship of student organizations, membership on ad hoc and
standing committees, consultation to other areas of the University, participation in institutional or program self-study activities, and special assignments or responsible participation in activities which advance the academic programs of the University.

Professional service includes involvement in various professional organizations in a manner that accrues favorable notice to the individual and the University. Evidence of such contributions may consist of memberships in professional organizations appropriate to a faculty member’s teaching field or area of responsibility, attendance at meetings, holding of offices, and serving on committees at local, state, regional, and national levels of said professional organizations.

Community engagement occurs when a faculty member contributes professional expertise, pro bono, to the activities of government, schools, or other public and service agencies. The contribution may be in the following roles: consultant, program participant, member of a board or task force, speaker, or advisor.

3.3 ACADEMIC RANK AND PROMOTION OF FACULTY

Academic rank or promotion in academic rank is granted by the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma upon recommendation of the University President. Determination of merit and recommendation for granting promotion in rank shall be in accordance with the promotion policies and procedures of the University as stated in this manual.

3.3.1 Principal Academic Ranks of the University

The principal academic ranks of the University shall be Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, and Instructor. Faculty members generally remain at the same rank for a minimum of four (4) full years prior to application for promotion. The educational and experience requirements delineated below do not imply that attainment of given educational qualifications and/or experience requirements shall be the sole criteria for granting rank or promotion in rank. Minimum qualifications for these ranks shall be as follows:

Professor

- Earned terminal degree relevant to the teaching field awarded by a regionally accredited or internationally recognized institution
- Ten (10) full years of higher education teaching experience in full-time appointment(s) at Rogers State University or other accredited institutions prior to application
- Four (4) full years of experience at the associate professor rank prior to application
- Commendable achievement of all of the following categories: effective teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement

Associate Professor

- Earned terminal degree relevant to the teaching field awarded by a regionally accredited or internationally recognized institution
• Five (5) full years of higher education teaching experience in full-time appointment(s) at Rogers State University or other accredited institutions prior to application
• Four (4) full years of experience at the assistant professor rank prior to application
• Demonstrated record of effective teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement
• Commendable achievement in teaching and in at least one other criterion: research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement

**Assistant Professor (One of the following options)**

**Option A**
- Earned terminal degree relevant to the teaching field awarded by a regionally accredited or internationally recognized institution
- Academic credentials which indicate the potential for effective teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement

**Option B**
- Earned master’s degree relevant to the teaching field awarded by a regionally accredited or internationally recognized institution
- Four (4) full years of successful higher education teaching experience in full-time appointment(s) at Rogers State University or other accredited institutions prior to application
- Academic credentials which document effective teaching and indicate the potential for research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement

**Instructor**

Earned master’s degree relevant to the teaching field awarded by a regionally accredited or internationally recognized institution. For selected fields in Associate in Applied Science degree programs, a baccalaureate degree awarded by a regionally accredited or internationally recognized institution is sufficient.

**Others**

The University may classify instructional personnel who are not subject to assignment of rank by such titles as special instructors, lecturers, graduate assistants, adjunct instructors, part-time instructors, or by other title.

**3.3.2 Concepts and Understandings Regarding Rank and Promotion Policies**

- The highest interests of the University will best be served through a spirit of cooperation and a sense of mutual confidence among the faculty, the department heads, the academic deans, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the President of the University. The procedure for recommending promotion in rank is designed to systematize as well as to encourage such cooperation and mutual confidence.
• The determination of professional training and/or experience to meet the criteria for assignment of rank will be the responsibility of the Vice President for Academic Affairs (“VPAA”). The VPAA will consult with peers or supervisors of those who are being considered for changes in rank.

• The Vice President for Academic Affairs may recommend an instructor for promotion to the rank of assistant professor upon completion of all degree requirements for one of the options in section 3.2.1 and upon presentation of official documentation from the granting institution. Approval of the President and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma is required.

• For promotion to the ranks of Associate Professor and Professor, the number of years specified for higher education teaching experience and the number of years of experience at a given rank must be completed before requesting promotion in rank.

• A faculty member must complete at least two (2) years of full time employment at Rogers State University before requesting promotion to the rank of Associate Professor or Professor.

• Any exception to the policy on promotion in rank may be granted by the President of the University consistent with policies of the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma. Copies of these exceptions must be kept in the faculty members’ personnel files.

3.3.3 Criteria for Promotion in Rank

Providing that the candidate meets the educational and experience requirements, promotion in rank is based upon the professional activities of the faculty as outlined in Section 3.2 (teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement).

3.3.4 Promotion Process

It is the responsibility of the individual faculty member to initiate the request for a promotion in rank and to prepare the portfolio of materials. If the faculty member requests promotion as well as tenure, then the portfolio of materials may be used for both processes. The department head and dean will advise the faculty member in preparation of this request. The following steps outline the procedures in the promotion process. A Portfolio Transmittal Form to certify the receipt dates and transmittal dates at each step of the promotion process must accompany the request and is available from the department head. In the event that one of the deadlines in the promotion process falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline becomes the next working date of the University. The individual faculty member may monitor the flow of materials through the process. At any step in the process, the faculty member may withdraw a request for promotion in rank.

Step 1 – By November 15, the faculty member files a written request for promotion with the department head. The request must be accompanied by a portfolio exhibiting documentation of effective teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and
professional and University service and community engagement. Professional and University service includes contributions to the institution and to the profession. The portfolio must include copies of all available annual faculty development and evaluation documents.

**Step 2 – By December 15**, the department head reviews the portfolio, evaluates each performance criterion, and provides the faculty member a written notification of his/her recommendation (approval/disapproval) and the basis for the recommendation. The department head then forwards all documents to the dean of the school.

**Step 3 – By January 15**, the dean of the school reviews the portfolio and attached recommendations, evaluates each performance criterion, and provides the department head and the faculty member a written notification of his/her recommendation (approval/disapproval) and the basis for the recommendation. The dean then forwards all documents to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Step 4 – By February 15**, the Vice President for Academic Affairs reviews the portfolio and attached recommendations, evaluates each performance criterion, and provides the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member a written notification of either his/her decision of denial of promotion or his/her recommendation of approval and the basis for the denial/approval recommendation.

If the Vice President for Academic Affairs recommends approval of the request, he/she forwards all documents to the President.

If the Vice President for Academic Affairs denies the promotion request, the faculty member may appeal the action to the Faculty Appellate Committee.

**Step 5 - By March 1**, if appealing a denial by the VPAA, the faculty member must provide written notification to the Vice President for Academic Affairs that the right of appeal is being exercised, along with the specific grounds for the appeal.

**Step 6 – By March 7**, upon receiving notification of appeal, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will provide this notification and all documentation to the chair of the Faculty Appellate Committee. Each committee member will be furnished all documentation relevant to the process including, the faculty member’s original request and portfolio evaluations of the portfolio by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the dean, and the department head and annual faculty evaluations. Strictest confidence pertaining to the information and proceedings will be maintained. The faculty member and the academic officers will be permitted to provide additional testimony supporting their respective positions. New documentation which was not considered by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the dean and the department head may not be added at this point. The faculty member may, however, add his/her own testimony that clarifies or assists the committee with the evaluation of the request.

The Faculty Appellate Committee will consider all documentation and testimony, vote by secret ballot, and provide the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member a written notification of its recommendation and the basis for the recommendation.
Step 7 – By April 1, the Faculty Appellate Committee must make its recommendation. If the Faculty Appellate Committee recommends approval of the request, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will review his/her original recommendation and the recommendation of the Faculty Appellate Committee. The Vice President will then provide his/her final written recommendation (approval/disapproval) to the Faculty Appellate Committee, the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member. The Vice President for Academic Affairs then forwards all documents to the President.

If the Faculty Appellate Committee recommends disapproval of the request, the promotion is denied. The Vice President for Academic Affairs then provides written notification to the Faculty Appellate Committee, the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member that the promotion request has concluded with the denial of the promotion.

Step 8 – By May 1, upon receiving a positive recommendation from the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the President either approves or disapproves the request.

If the President approves the request for promotion, he/she recommends the granting of promotion to the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma normally at the May meeting. The President then reports the Regents’ action to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who then provides written notification to the Faculty Appellate Committee (if applicable), the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member.

If the President disapproves the request for promotion, he/she provides written notification to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, along with a basis of the decision. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will then provide written notification to the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member.

3.4 ACADEMIC TENURE

Tenure is a privilege and a distinctive honor. Tenure is defined as continuous reappointment, which may be granted to a faculty member in a tenure-track position, subject to the terms and conditions of appointment. Tenure is granted by the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma upon recommendation of the President. Determination of merit and recommendation for granting tenure shall be in accordance with the tenure policies and procedures of the University as detailed in this manual.

3.4.1 Concepts and Understandings Regarding Tenure Policies

- Only full-time faculty members holding academic rank of assistant professor, associate professor, or professor may be granted tenure. In those exceptional cases when it is recommended that a faculty member be permitted to reduce his or her employment to less than full-time and maintain a tenured status, specific Regents’ approval must be granted. Qualified professional librarians shall be considered faculty members if they are accorded academic rank.
The highest interests of the University will best be served through collegiality, a spirit of cooperation and a sense of mutual confidence among the faculty, the department heads, the academic deans, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the President of the University. The procedure for recommending tenure is designed to systematize as well as to encourage such cooperation and mutual confidence.

Tenure implies a mutual responsibility on the part of the University and the tenured faculty member. In granting tenure to a faculty member, the University makes a commitment to the faculty member’s continued employment, subject to certain qualifications. The University expects that tenured faculty members will maintain the level of performance by which they initially earned tenure.

Faculty members accorded tenure will normally commence their tenure appointments in the academic year immediately following the Board of Regents’ action.

Tenure shall be granted only by written notification after approval by the Board. Since only the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma may grant tenure based upon a recommendation from the University President, de facto tenure is nonexistent at Rogers State University.

In each case where tenure is awarded, there must be assurance that continuing financial support can reasonably be anticipated. The President shall determine whether funds are sufficiently secure to support the awarding of tenure.

A maximum of seventy (70) percent of the full-time faculty at the University may hold tenure at any one time. In the event the seventy (70) percent limit is reached, there will be no additions to the tenured faculty at Rogers State University. However, the tenure process on campus will continue. Faculty members recommended for tenure will be placed in a priority-hold status by year pending vacancies and the standard seven (7) year probationary period listed in 3.4.2 will be suspended. As tenured positions become available, faculty members will be removed from priority-hold status and granted tenure according to the following criteria in descending order of importance: longest time on priority-hold status, longest service to the University, highest rank, and longest tenure-eligible service.

Any exception to the policy on tenure may be granted by the President of the University consistent with policies of the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma.

### 3.4.2 Probationary Period

Faculty members shall be on probation for a minimum of four (4) years after date of first being employed by Rogers State University in a tenure track position. Years of experience in a non-tenure track position may be used towards years of the probationary period only if approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. After the four-year probationary period, faculty members holding the rank of assistant professor, associate professor, or professor may request tenure. Faculty members will remain on probation until either tenure is granted or seven years have elapsed. Seven (7) years shall be the maximum probationary period for the eligible faculty member to receive tenure. If, at the
end of seven (7) years any faculty member has not attained tenure, there will be no renewal of appointment for the faculty member unless a specific request for a waiver of policy is approved by the President.

For the purpose of determining probationary employment of faculty members for tenure consideration, sabbatical leave is included as a part of the period of probationary employment, and a leave of absence is not included as part of the probationary period.

3.4.3 Criteria for Tenure

Providing that candidates meet the academic rank eligibility requirements for tenure, the tenure decision shall be based on a thorough evaluation of the candidate’s total contribution to the mission of the University, including the maintenance of collegial relations with other faculty, staff, students, administration and the community. While specific responsibilities of faculty members may vary because of special assignments or because of the particular mission of an academic unit, all evaluations for tenure shall address the areas of professional activities, as outlined in Section 3.2 (teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement).

3.4.4 Tenure Process

It is the responsibility of the individual faculty member to initiate the request for tenure and to prepare the portfolio of materials. If the faculty member is requesting promotion as well as tenure, the portfolio of materials may be used for both processes. Tenure track faculty may apply for tenure two times, during their fifth, sixth, or seventh year of the probationary period. If, however, application is made during the seventh year and not granted, that is still the terminal year. The department head and the dean will advise the faculty member in preparation of this request. The following steps outline the procedures in the tenure process. A Portfolio Transmittal Form to certify the receipt dates and transmittal dates at each step of the tenure process must accompany the request and is available from the department head. In the event that one of the deadlines in the tenure process falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline becomes the next working date at the University. It is the right of the individual faculty member to monitor the flow of materials through the process. At any step in the process, the faculty member may withdraw a request for tenure, but it will count as one of the two opportunities to apply for tenure following the decision of the tenure review committee.

Step 1 – By November 15, the faculty member files a written request for tenure with the department head. The request must be accompanied by a portfolio exhibiting documentation of excellence in teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement. Professional and University service include contributions to the institution and to the profession. The portfolio must include all available signed annual faculty development and evaluation documents.

A Tenure Review Committee is then formed. All tenured faculty members within the department serve as the Tenure Review Committee. In the event that the number of tenured faculty members in the department is fewer than five (5), the tenured faculty within the department plus additional tenured faculty members appointed by the dean of
the school to form a group of five (5) tenured faculty members serves as the Tenure Review Committee.

The department head calls a meeting of the Tenure Review Committee to initiate discussion of the request. After each member of the Tenure Review Committee critiques the portfolio and each performance criterion, the faculty member’s performance is reviewed, discussed, and evaluated by the Tenure Review Committee. This review shall be conducted in a manner that allows for input from non-tenured colleagues, tenured colleagues from outside the department, students, alumni, and administrative information from the department head or dean. This will be accomplished in the following manner: By November 16th, each Department Head will forward through their respective Dean to the Vice President for Academics, a list of applicants for tenure. The office of the VPAA will disseminate the list to the university community, soliciting comments. All comments, if any, must be received by the Tenure Review Committee prior to November 21st. After completion of the review, a poll by secret ballot of the Tenure Review Committee is taken to determine whether a recommendation for the granting of tenure will be made. A simple majority rule prevails. The Tenure Review Committee then sends the portfolio, the tenure evaluation form, the committee’s vote, and their recommendation to grant or to deny to the department head. The committee will also provide a statement in writing of their action to the candidate. All ballots are retained by the chair of the Tenure Review Committee until a final decision is reached concerning the tenure request. The ballots are then destroyed.

**Step 2 – By December 15,** the department head reviews the Tenure Review Committee’s vote and recommendation, reviews the portfolio, and evaluates each performance criterion. The department head will consult with the Tenure Review Committee regarding their recommendation. Once this consultation is completed s/he provides the Tenure Review Committee and the faculty member a written notification of his/her recommendation (approval/disapproval). The department head then forwards all documents to the dean of the school.

**Step 3 – By January 15,** the dean of the school reviews the portfolio and attached recommendations, and evaluates each performance criterion. The dean must consult with the department head and/or Tenure Review Committee regarding their recommendation. Once this consultation is completed, s/he provides the department head, the Tenure Review Committee, and the faculty member a written notification of his/her recommendation (approval/disapproval). The dean then forwards all documents to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Step 4 – By February 15,** the Vice President for Academic Affairs reviews the portfolio and attached recommendations, and evaluates each performance criterion. The Vice President for Academic Affairs must consult with the dean and/or department head and/or the Tenure Review Committee regarding their recommendation. Once this process is completed s/he provides the dean of the school, the department head, the Tenure Review Committee, and the faculty member a written notification of either his/her decision of denial of tenure with reasons or his/her recommendation of approval.

If the Vice President for Academic Affairs recommends approval of the request, he/she forwards all documents to the President.
If the Vice President for Academic Affairs denies the tenure request and the faculty member believes that tenure review procedures were not followed, he/she may appeal the action to the Faculty Appellate Committee. The appeal request must pertain solely to tenure review procedures.

**Step 5 – By March 1**, the faculty member must provide written notification to the Vice President of Academic Affairs that the right of appeal is being exercised, along with the specific grounds for the appeal.

**Step 6 – By March 7**, upon receiving notification of appeal, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will provide this notification and the grounds for the appeal to the chair of the Faculty Appellate Committee. Pertinent testimony from all parties involved may be heard, but must be limited to tenure review procedures only. The Faculty Appellate Committee will consider all documentation and testimony, vote by secret ballot, and provide the Vice President for Academic Affairs a written notification of their decision. The Faculty Appellate Committee must complete its action by March 20.

**Step 7 - By April 1**, if the Faculty Appellate Committee rules that tenure review procedures were not followed, the process will resume at the point where the violation occurred. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall be responsible for monitoring the subsequent process to ensure that correct review procedures are followed, and that the process is completed by April 20.

If the Faculty Appellate Committee rules that the tenure review procedures were followed, then appeal is denied. The process will resume at the point where the appeal occurred.

**Step 8 – By May 1**, upon receiving a recommendation from the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the President either approves or disapproves the request for tenure.

If the President approves the request for tenure, he/she recommends the granting of tenure to the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma, normally at the May meeting. The President then reports the Regents’ action to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who then provides written notification to the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member.

If the President disapproves the request for tenure, he/she provides written notification to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will then provide written notification to the dean of the school, the department head, and the faculty member.

**Step 9 -** The process is completed by the following actions:

- All recommendations will be placed in the personnel file of the candidate.

- The portfolio and a copy of all recommendations will be returned to the candidate.

- All confidential, relevant records leading to tenure will be kept in the VPAA’s office for a period of five (5) years and then destroyed unless further recordkeeping of the same is required by either the State of Oklahoma’s “General Records Disposition Schedule for State Universities and Colleges,” or other legal requirements.
3.4.5 Post-Tenure Review

Post-tenure review at the University is a periodic peer-based evaluation of tenured faculty for the purpose of guiding career development and, when judged necessary, improving faculty performance. The post-tenure review process is based on and extends the annual evaluation of faculty through two processes:

1) A retrospective review of faculty performance in teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement over the three years preceding the review, and

2) A formative evaluation for future professional growth.

For all faculty, post-tenure review provides a formal opportunity for self-assessment and discussion with peers about professional development. For those faculty whose performance is judged to be below expectations, the evaluation leads to the formulation of a professional development plan, the purpose of which is to assist the faculty member to raise his or her level of performance to meet or exceed the expectations for tenured faculty.

Post-tenure review is mandatory for all tenured faculty.

Bearing in mind the value and importance of academic freedom and procedural due process to the well-being and success of the academic community, the University acknowledges and supports in principle the policies and procedures set forth in the AAUP’s Standards for Good Practice in Post-Tenure Review. Post-tenure review is not a re-evaluation of a faculty member’s tenure status, nor is it intended as means to effect programmatic change. The post-tenure review process will be carried out in a manner that is consistent with the University’s policies on academic freedom and responsibility and on faculty evaluation. Post-tenure review will be based on the criteria for annual review established by the faculty of the unit and approved by the administration. Specific provisions prescribing post tenure reviews are set forth in Section 3.8.2 of this Manual.

3.4.6 Non-Tenured Regular Faculty Non-Reappointment

Action on the reappointment of non-tenure track or tenure-track regular faculty is initiated by the academic department head through the respective dean to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, President and Board of Regents. Any final decision not to reappoint a faculty member shall be determined by the Board of Regents. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will provide written notification of non-reappointment to the faculty member no later than March 1. Failure to reappoint may be without specific or stated cause.

3.5 SEVERE SANCTIONS

The University strives to exercise great care in selecting faculty appointees and to confer tenure upon only those faculty members who have demonstrated their merit for tenured appointment. For that reason, severe sanctions such as dismissal of a tenured faculty member (abrogation of tenure) or of a regular faculty member during a non-tenure track or tenure-track appointment should be an exceptional event. It is also recognized, however, that a few faculty members
may, from time to time, engage in improper conduct which requires severe sanctions short of dismissal. Such sanctions may include but are not limited to loss of prospective privileges for a stated period; restitution; a fine; a reduction in salary; or suspension from service for a stated period, without other prejudice. As in the case of dismissal, the imposition of severe sanctions short of dismissal should be viewed as a serious and infrequent step usually undertaken only after administrative remedies and minor sanctions have failed.

While extreme action will be required infrequently, the University must be prepared for such an eventuality, so that both the integrity of the University and the rights of the faculty member may be preserved. Toward this end, the faculty must be willing to recommend severe sanctions upon, or dismissal of, a colleague when necessary. By the same token, the President and the Board of Regents shall give all reasonable consideration to faculty recommendations.

Only the Board of Regents has the power to impose severe sanctions. The Board of Regents shall exercise this power only in cases where it determines that there exists sufficient cause for such action.

### 3.5.1 Grounds for Abrogation of Tenure, Dismissal, and Other Severe Sanctions

A faculty member against whom the imposition of a severe sanction is to be brought or whose dismissal is to be requested must have given such cause for the action as relates directly and substantially to his or her professional capabilities or performance. It is not possible to specify all proper grounds for these drastic measures. Proper reasons for dismissal of a regular faculty member who has tenure or whose tenure-track appointment has not expired include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- **a)** Professional incompetence or dishonesty, including but not limited to, academic dishonesty, or misuse of University property or resources;

- **b)** Substantial, manifest, or repeated failure to fulfill professional duties or responsibilities;

- **c)** Personal behavior preventing the faculty member from satisfactory fulfillment of professional duties or responsibilities, including but not limited to, deliberate and grave violations of the rights and freedoms of fellow faculty members, administrators, or students;

- **d)** Serious violations of law which are admitted or proved before a court of competent jurisdiction or the administrative body established to hear such matters, preventing the faculty member from satisfactory fulfillment of professional duties or responsibilities, or violations of a court order, when such order relates to the faculty member’s proper performance of professional responsibilities;

- **e)** Action(s) involving moral turpitude.

- **f)** Changes in the University’s educational function through action of the Board of Regents and/or the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, which result in the elimination of an academic unit. In such
instances the University will make every reasonable effort to reassign affected faculty members to positions for which they are properly qualified before dismissal results from such elimination;*

g) Financial Emergency;*

*Although not considered severe sanctions, (f) and (g) are proper reasons for dismissal of a faculty member who has tenure or whose tenure-track or non-tenure track term has not expired.

3.5.2 Grounds for Summary Suspension

Suspension of a faculty member or assignment to other duties in lieu of suspension is justified only if immediate harm to the faculty member or to others is threatened by that person’s continued performance of regular duties. The faculty member may, on request and at the convenience of the department, be relieved of some professional duties if this is necessary to provide time for the preparation of a defense. Summary suspension does not remove from the University the obligation to provide due process within a reasonable period of time following action.

3.5.3 Process for Dismissal of a Faculty Member for Cause

Dismissal proceedings will begin with a conference between the faculty member and the dean of the school. The conference may result in agreement that the dismissal proceedings should be discontinued or that the best interest of the tenured faculty member and the University would be served by the faculty member’s resignation. If this conference does not result in mutual agreement, the dean will submit a recommendation in writing with rationale to the faculty member and to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Within seven (7) days, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will have a conference with the faculty member. This conference may result in agreement that the dismissal proceedings should be discontinued or that the best interest of the tenured faculty member and the University would be served by the faculty member’s resignation. If this conference does not result in mutual agreement, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will submit a recommendation of dismissal in writing with rationale to the faculty member and to the President.

A faculty member who receives a recommendation of dismissal from the Vice President for Academic Affairs may request, and will be afforded, a hearing before the Faculty Appellate Committee. Failure to make a request in writing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs within seven (7) days after receipt of recommendation of dismissal from the Vice President for Academic Affairs will constitute a waiver by such faculty member of his/her right to a hearing before the Faculty Appellate Committee.

If the faculty member waives his/her right to appeal, the President will recommend dismissal of the faculty member to the Board of Regents at the next board meeting. The President will notify the faculty member of the action of the Board by registered mail with a return receipt requested. Every reasonable effort must be made by the President to ensure that the communication is delivered to the faculty member without delay.
3.5.4 Process for Other Severe Sanctions

Disciplinary action will begin with a conference between the tenured faculty member, the department head, and the dean of the appropriate school. If, as a result of the conference, the dean finds that disciplinary action is warranted, a written recommendation for action and the rationale for the action will be forwarded to the faculty member and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

If the faculty member does not agree that the recommended disciplinary action is warranted, he/she may request, and will be afforded, a conference with the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Failure to make a request in writing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs within fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of recommendation of disciplinary action will constitute a waiver by such faculty member of his/her right to further appeal. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will forward the recommended disciplinary action and the rationale for the action to the President.

If the faculty member does timely request a conference with the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the conference will be arranged within fourteen (14) calendar days. The Vice President may then determine that the recommended disciplinary action is not necessary, or should be modified. If the Vice President for Academic Affairs approves and/or modifies the recommended disciplinary action, he/she will provide the President, dean, department head and the faculty member a recommendation of the disciplinary action.

A faculty member who receives a recommendation of disciplinary action from the Vice President for Academic Affairs may request and will be afforded a hearing before the Faculty Appellate Committee. Failure to make a request in writing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs within fourteen (14) days after receipt of recommendation of disciplinary action from the Vice President of Academic Affairs will constitute a waiver by such faculty member of his/her right to a hearing before the Faculty Appellate Committee.

If the faculty member waives his/her right to appeal, the President will recommend the plan of disciplinary action of the faculty member to the Board of Regents at the next board meeting. Upon approval of the disciplinary action by the Board of Regents, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will provide written notification to the dean, the department head, and the faculty member that the plan of disciplinary action has been approved and a copy of the disciplinary action will be placed in the faculty member’s personnel file.

3.5.5 Appeal Procedures for Recommendations Regarding Severe Sanctions

After a faculty member has requested a hearing before the Faculty Appellate Committee, service of notice of hearing with specific charges in writing will be made by the Vice President for Academic Affairs to the Faculty Appellate Committee and the faculty member at least twenty (20) days prior to the hearing. The faculty member may respond by waiving the hearing and filing a written brief, and if not then the matter will proceed to a hearing. If the faculty member waives hearing, but denies the charge or asserts that the charges do not support a finding of adequate cause, the Faculty Appellate Committee will evaluate all available evidence, including testimony and documentary
evidence presented by the University, and make its recommendation upon the evidence in the record.

a) If the faculty member requests a hearing, the Faculty Appellate Committee will, with due diligence considering the interests of both the University and the faculty member, hold a hearing and report its findings and recommendations to the University President and to the faculty member.

b) At hearings before the Faculty Appellate Committee, faculty members and the University will be permitted advisors and/or counsel. A court reporter will be retained by the University to record the proceedings. Parties will pay the cost of a copy of the transcript. The hearing will be conducted in a closed session.

c) The faculty member will be afforded an opportunity to obtain necessary witnesses and documentary or other evidence, and the administration of the University will attempt to secure the cooperation of such witnesses and will make available necessary documents and other evidence within its control. No employee of the University, regardless of position, will be excluded or excused from appearing before the committee, if available.

d) The faculty member and the University will have the right to cross examine all witnesses present. Depositions are admissible whenever a witness cannot appear.

e) The committee may conclude by secret ballot: a) that adequate cause for dismissal/disciplinary action has not been established by the evidence, or; b) that adequate cause for dismissal/disciplinary action has been established, but an academic penalty less than dismissal and/or the recommended disciplinary action, including removal of tenure, would be more appropriate, or; c) that adequate cause for dismissal/disciplinary action has been established by the evidence. The committee may make any other recommendations it determines are appropriate. The committee’s findings and recommendations will be made to the University President. The committee will send a copy of its findings and recommendations to the faculty member.

f) The President will review the recommendations of the Faculty Appellate Committee and the Vice President for Academic Affairs and notify the faculty member of his/her recommendation to the Board of Regents. The faculty member will have the right to request the Board of Regents to review adverse findings and recommendations of the President. The request must be in writing and filed within fifteen (15) days after the President of the University mailed the notification to the faculty member.

g) In the event the faculty member submits a timely request to the Board to review adverse findings and recommendations of the President, the faculty member must request a hearing of all of the evidence of the case, if desired. The Board of Regents has the discretion to determine whether the review will be a *de novo* hearing or a review of the record.
h) Public statements and publicity about the case by the University will be avoided until the proceedings, including consideration by the Board of Regents, have concluded.

3.5.6 Dismissal of Tenured Faculty for Academic Unit Elimination or Financial Emergency

A faculty member with tenure whose position is terminated based upon the elimination of an academic unit will be given five (5) months written notice if possible. The University will make every reasonable effort to reassign affected faculty members to positions for which they are properly qualified before dismissal results from such elimination.

If an appointment is terminated based upon academic unit elimination or financial emergency, the dismissed faculty member’s position will not be filled by a replacement within a period of two years, unless the dismissed faculty member has been offered reappointment at the previous status.

3.6 ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY

3.6.1 Institutional Academic Freedom

The accumulation and exchange of knowledge is among the preeminent purposes of the University, and the acknowledgement of individual academic freedom is one of the cornerstones to ensure such purposes are achieved. Equally important in meeting these goals is the recognition of the right inherent in the responsibility of the Board of Regents to govern the University. “[I]t is the business of a university to provide that atmosphere which is most conducive to speculation, experimentation and creation. It is an atmosphere in which there prevail ‘the four essential freedoms’ of a university – to determine for itself on academic grounds who may teach, what may be taught, how it shall be taught, and who may be admitted to study.” Sweezy v. New Hampshire, 354 U.S. 234, 263,; 77 S.Ct. 1203; 1 L.Ed.2d 1311 (1957).

3.6.2 Academic Freedom

The 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure, with 1970 Interpretive Comments, of the American Association of University Professors has long been recognized as providing valuable and authoritative guidelines for policy and practice in American colleges and universities. The section on academic freedom below reflects the spirit of those stated principles. In the formulation that follows, these principles have been adopted as policy by the Board of Regents.

a) Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in research and publication, subject to any restrictions set by law or by applicable codes of professional ethics, and subject to adequate performance of their other academic duties and to stated University policy on outside employment; but, except under conditions of national emergency, a faculty member should not undertake to do research on University time or using University facilities or funds under any agreement which would (except for
a definitely and reasonably limited time) prohibit open communication of the results.

b) Faculty members are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but it is inappropriate for a teacher persistently to introduce material, which has no relation to the subject of instruction.

c) As members of the community, university teachers have the rights and obligations of any citizen. They measure the urgency of these obligations in the light of their responsibilities to their subject, to their students, to their profession, and to their institution. In speaking or acting as private persons, faculty members avoid creating the impression of speaking or acting for their college or university. As a citizen engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, the university teacher has a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.

d) As citizens, university teachers should be free to engage in political activities consistent with their obligations as teachers and scholars and with University policy.

e) Freedom of access to recorded knowledge being essential to learning and research in a democracy, the right and the obligation of the university to provide a full range of materials on any subject, even though some views might be currently unpopular or controversial, or appear incorrect, shall not be infringed. The principles of academic freedom shall apply to the presence of materials and also to those who provide and those who use them.

f) The University endorses the 1957 declaration of the American Association of University Professors which “…asserts the right of college and university students to listen to anyone whom they wish to hear…affirms its own belief that it is educationally desirable that students be confronted with diverse opinions of all kinds, (and) therefore, holds that any person who is presented by a recognized student or faculty organization should be allowed to speak on a college or university campus.” Duly constituted organizations at Cameron University and Rogers State University may invite speakers without fear of sanctions. However, in the exercise of these rights, it is clearly recognized that:

Membership in the academic community imposes on students, faculty members, administrators, and trustees an obligation to respect the dignity of others, to acknowledge their right to express differing opinions, and to foster and defend intellectual honesty, freedom of inquiry and instruction, and free expression on and off the campus. The expression of dissent and the attempt to produce change, therefore, may not be carried out in ways which injure individuals or damage institutional facilities or disrupt the classes of one’s teachers or colleagues. Speakers on campus must not only be protected from violence but must be given an opportunity to be heard. Those who seek to call attention to grievances must not do so in ways that significantly impede the functions of the institution. (1970 declaration of the AAUP Council)
3.6.3 Academic Responsibility

The concept of academic freedom shall be accompanied by an equally demanding concept of academic responsibility. The Board of Regents endorse (adopt) the AAUP 1987 Statement on Professional Ethics.

3.6.3.1 Introduction

From its inception, the American Association of University Professors has recognized that membership in the academic profession carries with it special responsibilities. The Association has consistently affirmed these responsibilities in major policy statements, providing guidance to professors in such matters as their utterances as citizens, the exercise of their responsibilities to students and colleagues, and their conduct when resigning from an institution or when undertaking sponsored research. The Statement on Professional Ethics that follows sets forth those general standards that serve as a reminder of the variety of responsibilities assumed by all members of the profession.

In the enforcement of ethical standards, the academic profession differs from those of law and medicine, whose associations act to ensure the integrity of members engaged in private practice. In the academic profession the individual institution of higher learning provides this assurance and so should normally handle questions concerning propriety of conduct within its own framework by reference to a faculty group. The Association supports such local action and stands ready, through the general secretary and the Committee on Professional Ethics, to counsel with members of the academic community concerning questions of professional ethics and to inquire into complaints when local consideration is impossible or inappropriate. If the alleged offense is deemed sufficiently serious to raise the possibility of adverse action, the procedures should be in accordance with the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure, the 1958 Statement on Procedural Standards in Faculty Dismissal Proceedings, or the applicable provisions of the Association’s Recommended Institutional Regulations on Academic Freedom and Tenure.

3.6.3.2 The Statement

1. Professors, guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the advancement of knowledge, recognize the special responsibilities placed upon them. Their primary responsibility to their subject is to seek and to state the truth as they see it. To this end professors devote their energies to developing and improving their scholarly competence. They accept the obligation to exercise critical self-discipline and judgment in using, extending, and transmitting knowledge. They practice intellectual honesty. Although professors may follow subsidiary interests, these interests must never seriously hamper or compromise their freedom of inquiry.

2. As teachers, professors encourage the free pursuit of learning in their students. They hold before them the best scholarly and ethical standards of their discipline. Professors demonstrate respect for students as individuals and adhere to their proper roles as intellectual guides and counselors. Professors make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct and to ensure that their evaluations of students reflect each student’s true merit. They respect
the confidential nature of the relationship between professor and student. They avoid any exploitation, harassment, or discriminatory treatment of students. They acknowledge significant academic or scholarly assistance from them. They protect their academic freedom.

3. As colleagues, professors have obligations that derive from common membership in the community of scholars. Professors do not discriminate against or harass colleagues. They respect and defend the free inquiry of associates. In the exchange of criticism and ideas professors show due respect for the opinions of others. Professors acknowledge academic debt and strive to be objective in their professional judgment of colleagues. Professors accept their share of faculty responsibilities for the governance of their institution.

4. As members of an academic institution, professors seek above all to be effective teachers and scholars. Although professors observe the stated regulations of the institution, provided the regulations do not contravene academic freedom, they maintain their right to criticize and seek revision. Professors give due regard to their paramount responsibilities within their institution in determining the amount and character of work done outside it. When considering the interruption or termination of their service, professors recognize the effect of their decision upon the program of the institution and give due notice of their intentions.

5. As members of their community, professors have the rights and obligations of other citizens. Professors measure the urgency of these obligations in the light of their responsibilities to their subject, to their students, to their profession, and to their institution. When they speak or act as private persons, they avoid creating the impression of speaking or acting for their college or university. As citizens engaged in a profession that depends upon freedom for its health and integrity, professors have a particular obligation to promote conditions of free inquiry and to further public understanding of academic freedom.

3.6.3.3 STUDENT APPEALS CONCERNING ENGLISH PROFICIENCY OF FACULTY

1. It is the policy of Rogers State University that all who provide instruction at the University shall be proficient in written, aural, and spoken English so that they may adequately instruct students. Rogers State University has established procedures to ensure that faculty members have proficiency in written, aural, and spoken English.

2. A student who believes that a faculty member is not sufficiently proficient in written, aural, or spoken English may file a written complaint with the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The identity of the complainant(s) shall remain confidential. Anonymous complaints will not be accepted.

3. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall notify the faculty member, the department head of the academic unit in which the faculty member is employed, and the dean of the school that a complaint has been received, although the identity of the complainant(s) shall remain confidential. If, after consulting with the school and department, the Vice President for Academic Affairs determines
that a formal inquiry is necessary, he/she shall appoint an independent evaluator
to evaluate the English proficiency of the faculty member. The evaluator may
visit the class of the faculty member named in the complaint, interview the faculty
member, interview students, or engage in such other activities as necessary to
evaluate the faculty member in a fair manner. The evaluator shall provide the
Vice President for Academic Affairs with a written report of his/her findings as to
the English proficiency of the faculty member and make recommendations of
actions that should be taken.

4. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall notify the complainant(s), the
faculty member, the department head of the academic unit, and the dean of
his/her findings as to the validity of the complaint. In the event that the faculty
member is found not to be sufficiently proficient in English, the Vice President for
Academic Affairs shall specify actions to be taken by the faculty member and/or
the academic unit. Such actions may include but are not limited to: (1)
reassignment of the faculty member to other duties; (2) re-evaluation of the
faculty member for purposes of hiring, promotion, salary, or other personnel
decisions; (3) appropriate remedial measures to assist the faculty member in
improving his/her English proficiency; and (4) appropriate remedies for the
affected students.

3.6.3.4 Procedural Guidelines

3.6.3.4.1 Records
Each faculty member will be responsible for maintaining accurate grade
records. These records will become the primary document of students’
performance in each class. The faculty is required to keep daily/biweekly
records of each student’s attendance, participation, and performance.
The grade records should also reflect the way in which the final grade
was calculated and assigned.

At the beginning of each semester, a class list will be provided to each
faculty member by the Registrar’s Office. This list may be used as a
temporary class record, but as soon as possible, all pertinent information
will be transferred to the grade records.

At the end of the semester, all adjunct faculty will submit their grade
records along with their grades to the departmental administrative
assistant. Full-time faculty members are required to maintain all grade
records for five years, unless the grades are maintained in the computer-
based course management system. In this case, the responsibility for
keeping these grades lies with the University. Faculty may turn in their
grade books to the department office for maintenance. Upon termination
of employment, the faculty member must submit all grade records to the
academic department. All grade records will be kept on file for five
academic years in the academic department.

3.6.3.4.2 Syllabi
Each faculty member is responsible for the preparation of an up-to-date
course syllabus. A copy of the syllabus must be provided to each student
in each class, and copies must be provided to the offices of the academic dean and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Each syllabus should include the following information as a minimum:

1. Course name and number, faculty member’s name, phone number, e-mail address, and office number.
2. Course prerequisite and/or co-requisite.
3. Course description from the current bulletin.
4. Next course in sequence (if applicable).
5. Textbooks and other required materials. List the title, edition, author, and publisher of the textbook and supplemental workbooks, lab manuals, and any other materials that are the student’s responsibility to obtain.
6. Course objectives. Inform the student about defined student outcomes and what he/she should be able to achieve upon completion of the course.
7. Teaching methods. State the teaching methods to be used, such as lecture, class discussion, guest speakers, films, lab assignments, etc.
8. Assessment techniques. Provide an explanation of how assignments and final grades are determined.
9. Grading system. State how the evaluation techniques will be used to compute the student’s grade and how much grading emphasis will be assigned to each component.
10. Attendance policies. Inform the student of class attendance and late arrival policy and whether this policy will be included in the grading system.
11. Late assignment and make-up policy. Notify the student of time limits that exist for make-up work, etc.
12. General topic outline and agenda. Provide a tentative schedule of the events in class such as reading and problem assignments, due dates on reports, essays, and class projects, and tentative exam dates.
13. The Rogers State University plagiarism statement (refer to Academic Integrity Policy).
14. The most recent ADA statement.

3.6.3.4.3 Curriculum Development
All faculty members are expected to participate in course and curriculum development within their academic department. Proposals relative to new course(s), new program(s), changes in course(s), and/or changes in program(s) should be submitted on the appropriate forms available from the department head. The Curriculum Committee is responsible for reviewing and suggesting changes in the curriculum.

3.6.3.4.4 Classroom Procedures
As a professional courtesy, furniture in the classroom should be left in an orderly manner for other classes that will occupy the room. If it is necessary to rearrange the furniture for your class, please return the room to its original arrangement before leaving the classroom. The
boards should be erased before leaving the classroom, projectors turned off, and computers restarted as appropriate.

3.6.3.4.5 Textbook Selection
Generally, the selection of a text or texts for any class is the decision of the professor who teaches the class. However, individual departments that offer multiple sections of the same course may, at the discretion of the department head, form a committee comprised of the full-time faculty teaching that course. That committee will then adopt the course textbook that receives the most votes. In that case, the decision of the committee is mandatory. If the Department Head is teaching a course whose textbook is being determined by a committee, the Department Head may vote as a regular faculty member of the committee. In the case of a tie, the Department Head also votes to break the tie.

The senior (the one who has taught the course the longest) full-time faculty member teaching a course will select the texts for the sections taught by adjuncts.

Every effort should be made to minimize student costs, including adoption of less expensive editions, appropriate bundling, timely communication with the bookstore and with students, and limiting frequency of edition changes as appropriate.

Most publishers furnish desk copies of a textbook and ancillaries upon adoption of the text. Many publishers also send examination copies for consideration. Faculty should contact the publisher’s representative directly to place their order for these copies.

3.6.3.4.6 Classroom Supplies
Each department is responsible for maintaining necessary standard classroom and office supplies. The faculty member should ask the departmental administrative assistant for normal supplies. Laboratory supplies should be ordered by the appropriate faculty member responsible for that laboratory, using the appropriate purchasing procedures.

3.6.3.4.7 Examinations
When appropriate, the faculty member should prepare and administer course examinations during the semester. In some instances, a departmental examination may be administered for courses with multiple sections. Special examinations may be administered to support assessment activities. Final examinations must be administered in adherence to the Final Exam Schedule published in the Schedule of Classes.

3.6.3.4.8 Online Courses
All faculty teaching online courses should include the following statement in their online syllabus:
Faculty teaching online courses will not require class assignments to be submitted during scheduled RSU holiday periods.

3.6.3.5 Procedures for the Release of Student Records and Information

Information about students and former students gathered by Rogers State University is of two types: (1) directory, and (2) confidential. Any office gathering such information, and/or having custody of it, shall release it only in accordance with this policy.

When a student enters a university and furnishes data required for academic and personal records, there is an implicit and justifiable assumption of trust placed in the University as custodian of such information. This relationship continues with regard to any data subsequently generated during the student’s enrollment.

While the University fully acknowledges the student’s rights of privacy concerning this information, it also recognizes that certain information is part of the public record and may be released for legitimate purposes.

With these considerations in mind, Rogers State University adopts the following policy concerning the release of information contained in student records:

1. Directory Information: This is information that routinely appears in student directories and alumni publications and may be freely released. Upon written request by the student, this information will be treated as confidential and released only with the student’s written consent. Forms for withholding student “Directory Information” are available in the Office of the Registrar, second floor of Markham Hall. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, RSU identifies the following items as directory information:
   1. Academic classification
   2. Student’s current name
   3. Campus or local address
   4. Campus or local telephone number
   5. Academic major
   6. Student’s permanent address
   7. Student’s email address
   8. Current enrollment (verify or deny only)
   9. Dates of attendance at RSU
   10. Degree(s) conferred, and date(s) of graduation

2. Confidential Information: This is all other information contained in the student’s educational record and can be released only upon the written consent of the student, with the following exceptions as defined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, which waive prior student consent.
a. Other school officials within the University who have legitimate educational interests. Other school officials are defined as:
   • a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position, including health and medical staff;
   • a person appointed to the Board of Regents;
   • a person or company with whom the University has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using University employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent)
   • a person who is employed by the Campus Police; or
   • a student serving on an official committee such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or who is assisting another school official in performing tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official is:
   • performing a task related to the student’s education;
   • performing a task related to the discipline of a student;
   • providing a service or benefit relating to the student or student’s family such as health care, counseling, job placement, or financial aid; or
   • maintaining the safety and security of the campus.

b. Officials of schools to which the student seeks to transfer.

c. The Comptroller General of the United States, the HEW Secretary, the administrative head of an educational agency, or State educational authorities.

d. In connection with a student’s application for, or receipt of, financial aid.

e. State and local officials or authorities to whom such information is specifically required to be reported under State statute adopted prior to November 17, 1974.

f. Organizations or educational agencies conducting legitimate research, provided no personally identifiable information about the student is made public.

g. Accrediting organizations.

h. Parents or legal guardians of a dependent student upon proof of dependency as defined by the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. (Parents or legal guardians of international students are excluded.)

i. To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena provided that the educational agency or institution makes a reasonable effort to notify the student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance.

j. In connection with an emergency when such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.

k. The result of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by the University against an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence to the alleged victim of that crime.
Confidential information shall be transferred to a third party, however, only on the condition that such party will not permit any other party to have access to the information without the written consent of the student.

Original credentials with which a student applies for admission or readmission to Rogers State University become the property of the University, are assembled in a permanent student folder, and are made available only to those persons properly authorized to receive confidential information and then only in consultation with a professional staff member in the Office of Admissions.

Although the permanent academic record is a cumulative record compiled by the student, the Registrar is the officer of the University charged with the responsibility of its accuracy and safekeeping. Accordingly, the student folder and the permanent cumulative academic record are not available to anyone for removal from the Registrar’s assigned depository.

While the release of an official transcript is limited to the student, or any party to whom he/she has assigned permission to request it, the student may place a hold on the release of his/her own transcript to anyone without his/her specific permission by filing a request in writing with the Registrar.

More information concerning this policy may be obtained by contacting the Office of the Registrar.

3.7 FACULTY ACCOUNTABILITY

A faculty member is held accountable for his or her performance in fulfilling faculty duties and in meeting the requirements of academic responsibility and University policies. Persons who accept full-time employment at the University owe their first duty and first loyalty to the University. Any other employment or enterprise in which they engage for income must be secondary to their University duties. The most immediate agents of faculty accountability are the department heads, who should maintain close and regular communication with the faculty member. Among the various mechanisms for ensuring faculty accountability, the most important include annual performance evaluations, and such periodic evaluations as those for advancement in rank. These processes have the primary function of identifying meritorious performance to be rewarded, but they also provide a means by which the University may strengthen itself, by identifying needs for improved performance.

Meritorious and responsible faculty performance is first and foremost an individual professional obligation. But it is also the product of a cooperative effort by faculty members and administrative officers assisting one another, informing one another, and jointly seeking to assure that each faculty member’s capabilities are developed fully and creatively. Performance that is lacking in merit or responsibility, when identified, is a challenge both to the individual and to the academic unit and its leaders, in their exercise of the unit’s career development responsibilities. Just as faculty members are held accountable for their performance, administrators of academic units are held accountable for their leadership in the career development of the faculty in their units.

For those cases where they are needed, the University has at its disposal the more drastic measures of severe sanctions.
3.8 FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION POLICIES

3.8.1 Introduction

Faculty evaluation is a continuous process, both prior to and following the granting of tenure. An annual review of each faculty member’s performance is the responsibility of the academic deans and the specific academic department head. A systematic procedure for accomplishing such evaluations shall be developed in each academic unit, with the participation and approval of the dean and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The criteria for evaluation shall be carefully and clearly stated. Specific faculty assignments within an academic unit and the specific mission of a particular academic unit may have different percentages of effort distributed across the areas of professional activity (teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement) if, in consultation with the dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs, this is determined to assist the entire University in best meeting its mission.

3.8.2 POST-TENURE REVIEW PROCESS

Given the dynamic nature of the various fields of knowledge, practitioners of academic disciplines are challenged to keep abreast of changes and developments within their area of expertise. Rogers State University envisions Post-Tenure Review as a means of supporting faculty in enhancing their skills and expertise by providing opportunities for professional growth and development. To this end, the performance of tenured faculty shall be reviewed in the third year after the granting of tenure and in three year cycles thereafter. The areas reviewed shall be a faculty member’s teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement. As a desired outcome, Post-Tenure Review shall identify areas of faculty development needed or desired for fulfillment of professional goals and roles within their discipline and the University.

In addition, to support this aim of professional growth and development, Post-Tenure Review is designed to support Rogers State University’s primary mission as a teaching institution. In serving the needs of students, the University strongly acknowledges an obligation to ensure the quality of its instruction.

All tenured faculty members of the Rogers State University faculty will have their tenure reviewed at least every three years. Tenured faculty members are expected to perform in all applicable categories in accordance with this section. The specific timing of the review process will follow the same dates outlined in Section 3.8.8 (see Faculty Development and Evaluation Process). Faculty should prepare an updated curriculum vitae covering the period from the granting of tenure with the other required documentation. An annual review may be implemented for a tenured faculty member upon recommendation by the Department Head and Dean to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

When the review results in a finding that a tenured faculty member’s performance is unsatisfactory, the faculty member shall be notified of the deficiencies in performance and must be reviewed again within one (1) year. Two consecutive (annual)
unsatisfactory post-tenure reviews will be grounds for dismissal or suspension as outlined in section 3.5.1 of this manual.

If the initial review is unsatisfactory, the faculty member may request in writing to the Dean the formation of a Post-Tenure Review Committee no later than November 15. The committee shall consist of at least three tenured faculty members, all from the department of the one reviewed when possible. If the department has less than three tenured faculty members, the tenured faculty within the department plus additional tenured faculty members appointed by the Dean of the School to form a group of at least three tenured faculty members will serve as the committee.

The Post-Tenure Review Committee shall meet and select a chair. The committee will review all documentation submitted by the faculty member at the time of the initial review. The chair of the committee will submit a written narrative recommendation to the Dean and the Vice President for Academic Affairs no later than January 15. (The recommendation should be signed by each member of the reviewing committee. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will then communicate the results of the committee review to the faculty member.

3.8.3 Non-Tenured Regular Faculty Annual Evaluation

The performance of non-tenured regular faculty members shall be evaluated by March 1 each year, and the results of the evaluation shall be placed in the personnel file of the non-tenured faculty member. The non-tenured faculty member shall be given a copy of the evaluation.

3.8.4 Guidelines

Both the importance and the imperfection of a faculty development and evaluation system are duly considered in the Rogers State University scheme. It is designed within the following guidelines:

1. The Faculty Development and Evaluation System is designed to improve faculty performance.

2. The Faculty Development and Evaluation System will provide important information for promotion and tenure decisions.

3. The System utilizes several sources of data, and these sources are clearly communicated.

4. Evaluation procedures are individualized and flexible.

5. Individualization considers the institution’s nature, directions, and priorities, the administrative unit’s needs, and the individual’s interests.

6. An annual academic performance review (Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary) is submitted for each full-time faculty member. A formal evaluation is conducted for each non-tenured member each year and for each tenured faculty member at least each fifth year.
3.8.5 Faculty Evaluation System

In addition to previously stated educational and experience requirements for appointment to various ranks, the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma has specified the following categories upon which academic rank and promotion in rank are based: 1) teaching; 2) research and creative/scholarly activity; and 3) professional and University service and community engagement.

The Faculty Development and Evaluation System of Rogers State University is designed to promote faculty development and to assess faculty performance on those prescribed criteria. Instrumentation of the system consists of four documents:

1. Faculty Development and Evaluation Criteria (Appendix A). This document lists criteria for evaluating faculty performance in the three categories.

2. Catalog of Faculty Development and Evaluation Criteria (Appendix B). This document presents exemplars for each criterion. The exemplars are non-inclusive, but do provide examples and extend the definitions of the criteria. These exemplars should be used as guidelines and adapted according to the individual discipline area.

3. Faculty Development Plan (Appendix C). This document is an agreement for areas of emphasis for the forthcoming year.

4. Faculty Development Plan-Report (Appendix D). This document is based on the items presented in the previous year’s Faculty Development Plan and includes a summary of progress on identified objectives and additional accomplishments as appropriate.

5. Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary (Appendix E) “The Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary” is completed by the department head to list the education and experience of the faculty, rate the faculty member’s performance in the categories of teaching; research and creative/scholarly activity; and professional and University service and community engagement, rate the faculty member’s overall performance, and provide comments.

3.8.6 Evaluation Procedures

The “Catalog of Faculty Development and Evaluation Criteria” is utilized for establishing individual faculty development plans and for guiding individual faculty evaluations. Performance in each category is weighted by negotiation between the faculty member and the department head within limits as indicated below.

Institutional emphases define the weights of each category as follows:

- **Category 1 – Teaching** 50-80%
- **Category 2 – Research and Creative/Scholarly Activity** 5-40%
- **Category 3 – Professional and University Service and Community Engagement** 10-45%
Category 4 – Performance of Non-teaching or Administrative Duties (if applicable) 25-50%

All faculty are rated on negotiated criteria in Categories 1, 2, and 3, based on established limits. Those duties or assignments that result in a reduced teaching load will be considered in Category 4 and may affect the previously identified percentages. The rating on overall performance is a composite of the ratings in the categories.

The “Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary” is completed by the department head and is based upon a conference of the department head and the individual faculty member during which the relevant criteria for each category are rated. Not all criteria for each category apply to every faculty member. Relevancy of individual criteria is determined by the individual faculty member in consultation with the Department Head.

Commentary may be provided on the reverse side of the “Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary” as indicated. The “Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary” is signed by both the department head and the individual faculty member. The faculty member’s signature denotes that the evaluation has been conducted according to approved procedures. It does not necessarily mean agreement with the ratings.

A completed “Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary” and its corresponding Faculty Development Plan-Report for each full-time faculty member is submitted by the department head to the respective dean of the school for review. The dean of the school reviews the documents, provides comments, and signs both documents. The dean of the school retains a copy in the dean’s office and sends copies with all signatures to the department head. The department head retains signed copies of the documents and returns signed copies to the faculty member.

3.8.7 Evaluation Guidelines

The Faculty Development and Evaluation System of Rogers State University will be administered within the following procedural principles and guidelines.

1. Each faculty member will be evaluated on all Category 1 criteria and on criteria from other categories as determined in consultation with the department head. However, the development plan to be composed at the beginning of the development-evaluation cycle will specify only areas the faculty and department head identify for development. These areas may be ones from Category 1 in which the faculty needs improvement as well as special tasks in other categories. It is assumed that performance on required criteria not listed in the development plan will remain stable over the evaluation cycle. Cycle-end evaluation will address both the areas listed in the development plan and the other required criteria.

2. The department head assumes that the faculty member is functioning at a level of “proficient” unless there is evidence to the contrary. For a rating lower than proficient, the head has the responsibility of presenting evidence; and for a rating higher than proficient, the faculty member has the responsibility of presenting evidence.
3. Faculty development and evaluation criteria are generally stated in minimum terms. Ratings on criteria vary according to the productivity of efforts.

4. The ratings on the evaluation scale are as follows:

   **Outstanding:** Performance is among the best of colleagues in similar appointments in similar institutions in the respective field nationwide. On applicable criteria faculty member has recognition beyond the state.

   **Commendable:** Performance is among the best of colleagues in similar appointments in similar institutions in the respective field statewide. On applicable criteria, faculty member has statewide recognition.

   **Proficient:** Performance is productive, effective, and consistent with the achievement of the emphases, objectives, and interests of the institution, the administrative unit, and/or the individual.

   **Needs Improvement:** Performance is less than adequate for achievement of the emphases, objectives, and interests of the institution, the administrative unit, and/or the individual.

   **Critical:** Performance fails to contribute to the achievement of the emphases, objectives, and interests of the institution, the administrative unit, and/or the individual.

5. The “Faculty Development and Evaluation Summary” covers a year of performance except in certain instances; i.e., new faculty, faculty on leave, etc.

6. Activities, contributions, and involvements related to the University or to the faculty member’s educational field are of primary consideration in the evaluation.

7. While formal evaluations of tenured faculty are required at least each third year, formal evaluations may occur more frequently at the request of either the faculty member or the department head. In years when a complete evaluation is not done, a continuation form will be submitted.

### 3.8.8 Faculty Development and Evaluation Process

The faculty development and evaluation process for the year includes the following:

1. **By September 15**, the faculty member revises and updates the previous year’s “Faculty Development Plan-Report” as outlined in the following section entitled “Faculty Evaluation Guide”. It should list any activities completed the preceding year and not previously included in the “Faculty Development Plan-Report”. The faculty member forwards the revised plan to the department head.

2. **By October 1**, the faculty member and the department head meet for a year-end Evaluation. The department head should send the completed “Faculty
Development Evaluation Summary”, the associated “Faculty Development Plan-Report”, and documentation (if applicable) to the dean of the school.

3. **By October 15**, the dean should return copies of the faculty member’s evaluation documents, along with his/her comments to the department head and the faculty member.

4. **By November 1**, the faculty member and the department head complete the current year’s “Faculty Development Plan-Report”.

### 3.8.9 Faculty Evaluation Guide

1. The following documents should be used:
   a. Faculty Development Plan-Report
   b. Faculty Development Evaluation Summary

2. The evaluation for the preceding year should be made during September/October on the basis of the “Faculty Development Plan-Report.”
   a. Before the conference with the department head, the faculty member should conduct a year-end self-evaluation and succinctly describe progress for each exemplar listed in the preceding year’s “Faculty Development Plan-Report.” A brief statement indicating whether the exemplar was fully accomplished, partially accomplished, or not addressed is appropriate.
   b. As the faculty member formulates an overall self-rating for the Faculty Development Plan-Report in the area of teaching, he/she should analyze progress on several exemplars and accurately combine these to give an overall rating. Overall self-evaluation with only one exemplar is not acceptable. Citing marks from a student evaluation, for example, is not adequate evidence for a rating in the area of teaching. The results from the student evaluations represent only one dimension of teaching effectiveness. Multiple methods should be used to formulate an overall self-rating. For example, results from peer-evaluations, student evaluations, ETS Major Field Achievement Tests, and other exemplars should be combined to support the rating for teaching effectiveness.
   c. In the areas of research and creative/scholarly activity and professional and University service and community engagement, evidence from several exemplars should be combined to formulate the rating in each area.

3. Both the faculty member and the department head should have copies of each of the documents.

4. When the Faculty Development Plan-Report is complete, a conference should be scheduled between the department head and the faculty member.

5. In the conference, the department head should review the faculty member’s Faculty Development Plan-Report and make his/her own evaluation of the faculty member and mark it on the Faculty Development Evaluation Summary form. Documentation is required for ratings above or below proficient and should be attached to the evaluation forwarded to the dean.
3.9 FACULTY LOAD

University faculty members have responsibilities in the following three areas:

- Teaching
- Research and creative/scholarly activity
- Professional and University service and community engagement

The scope and variety of professional and University service will depend upon the needs of the departments, schools, and the University at large.

Faculty load assignments will be monitored each semester by the department head, reviewed by the dean of the school, and approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

3.9.1 Teaching

Instructional assignments are based upon the expertise of the faculty member and needs of the academic department. The assignments are made by the department head in collaboration with the faculty member.

3.9.2 Research and Creative/Scholarly Activity

Individual faculty research and creative/scholarly activities are defined by the professional interests of the faculty member. While the scope and nature of faculty research and creative/scholarly activity will vary among departments, University faculty shall be involved in those activities, individually or collaboratively, which advance the state of knowledge or performance levels of their respective fields. Both the pursuit of new knowledge or techniques and the application of knowledge in creative ways are valued.

3.9.3 Professional and University Service and Community Engagement

3.9.3.1 Student Advisement

Academic advisement is a very important service responsibility for faculty. Advisors are expected to assist students with enrollment, to counsel them about career options, to provide them information about deadlines and checkpoints, and to monitor their progress through programs. A recommended maximum advisement load is approximately forty (40) students.

3.9.3.2 Committees and Advisory Service

University service activities include sponsorship of student organizations, membership on ad-hoc and standing committees, consultation to other areas of the University, and participation in activities that advance the academic programs of the University.
3.9.3.3 Professional Activities

Membership in selected professional organizations appropriate to a faculty member’s assignment includes involvement in professional organizations at local, state, regional, and nationwide levels, and consists of attending meetings, holding offices, and serving on committees.

3.9.3.4 Community Engagement

Service to the community at large occurs when a faculty member contributes professional expertise pro bono to the activities of government, public schools, or other public and service agencies. The contribution may be in, but is not limited to, the following roles: consultant, program participant, member of a board or task force, or advisor.

3.10 DEPARTMENT HEAD LOAD

The department head has the dual role of faculty member and chief administrator of the department. It is important that a proper balance be achieved between the department head’s faculty assignment and administrative duties.

3.10.1 Teaching Load

The teaching load for department heads is typically 6 hours per long semester and 3 hours per summer session.

3.10.2 Administrative Duties

The department head is directly responsible to the dean of the respective school and has the charge of providing collegial leadership to the faculty of the academic department. This leadership is in five primary areas.

3.10.2.1 Instructional Program Management

1. Plans departmental course offerings to serve the department majors and provides appropriate service to other clientele (general education, other majors, off campus, and continuing education).

2. Prepares the departmental course schedule each regular semester and each summer term; identifies and recommends qualified faculty; coordinates the preparation and revision of syllabi and instructional objectives of the course of study.

3. Coordinates advisement of students in the department.

4. Coordinates strategic planning efforts and assessment plans for programs offered within the department.

5. Evaluates learning in the department through student evaluations of instruction, program review, and assessment of students.

6. Manages problems and attempts to resolve departmental conflicts.
7. Resolves problems related to closed classes during enrollment and manages enrollment in courses offered by the department.

8. Approves substitutes to cover classes when faculty must be absent.

9. Coordinates orders with the bookstore for textbooks and required student supplies.

3.10.2.2 Personnel Management

1. Coordinates the recruitment and selection of new faculty to maintain a balanced and diversified pool of instructional faculty.

2. Coordinates and participates in the annual faculty evaluation process and assists faculty in preparing their respective portfolio for tenure and promotion.

3. Assigns faculty responsibilities in the areas of instruction, advisement, and departmental service (facilities and equipment management, recruitment, etc.).

4. Fosters faculty development by providing appropriate feedback and assistance in obtaining professional developmental activities.

5. Acts as a communication link between the faculty and the administration.

6. Fosters good morale in the department through a positive outlook and positive relations among the members of the department.

7. Advocates appropriate recognition of faculty in the department.

8. Supervises and evaluates support staff as appropriate.

9. Recruits and supervises student workers and approves time sheets.

3.10.2.3 Financial and Facilities Management

1. Prepares and submits an annual department budget.

2. Manages and controls the department budget by allocating funds as needed, prepares requisitions, and verifies purchase receipts.

3. Supervises the use of department space and requests maintenance of space.

4. Supervises the equipment and instrumentation facilities of the department.

5. Conducts an annual inventory of the equipment and instrumentation assigned to the department.
6. Coordinates resources used jointly with other departments.

3.10.2.4 Department and Program Development

1. Coordinates the establishment of faculty and departmental goals in accordance with the University mission.

2. Coordinates departmental planning for development of quality instruction, research and creative/scholarly activities, facilities, equipment, personnel, and general progress.

3. Develops and recommends curricula for majors and minors in disciplines represented in the department.

4. Fosters good teaching by providing feedback from instructional evaluations.

5. Recruits students by collaborating with Admissions, by corresponding with prospective students, by hosting visiting students, and by preparing recruitment materials.

6. Coordinates regular program review and assessment activities in the department.

7. Supervises periodic follow-up studies of current students and graduates.

3.10.2.5 Academic Leadership

1. Encourages research and creative/scholarly activities among the faculty.

2. Encourages requests for appropriate external funding for the department.

3. Monitors and advances departmental mission and goals.

4. Communicates departmental needs within the University.

5. Engages in positive public relations by communicating information that improves the department's image and reputation.

3.11 DEPARTMENT HEAD SELECTION AND RETENTION

3.11.1 Selection Process

Both departmental faculty and academic administration are involved in the process of selecting department heads. A department head may be appointed from within the University or from the result of a search and interview process as determined by the Vice President for Academic Affairs in consultation with the departmental faculty and dean. Searches outside the University will be handled in accordance with established faculty search procedures, including the role of faculty in searching for, interviewing, and recommending candidates. The steps for appointment within the University are as follows:
1. The dean will meet with the faculty of the department to discuss the role, responsibilities, and compensation of the department head. The faculty and dean will develop a written description of the qualifications necessary for a head of that department from duties and responsibilities outlined in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual.

2. The dean will ask the faculty to submit nominations of candidates.

3. The dean will interview the nominees to determine their willingness to serve and their leadership philosophies.

4. The faculty of the department will meet to nominate one, two, or three acceptable candidates, identifying the strengths of each candidate and rank-ordering the nominees (if submitting more than one). The decision will be reported in writing to the dean.

5. The dean will submit a written recommendation on the faculty’s nominee(s) to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

6. Within two weeks of receipt of the dean’s recommendation, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will forward the dean’s recommendation and his/her written recommendation on the faculty’s nominee to the President.

7. Within two weeks of receipt of the Vice President’s recommendation, the President will notify the Vice President for Academic Affairs of his/her decision.

8. If the recommendation is not approved by the President, the process will be repeated, beginning with Step 4.

Any situation which is not covered in the aforementioned selection procedure will be handled cooperatively by the departmental faculty and the dean.

**3.11.2 Terms of Appointment**

Because the University operates on a year-round basis, the head normally is appointed on a 12-month basis.

The length of the initial and subsequent appointment as department head shall be fixed at three years. Interim appointments are generally for one year and evaluated annually.

**3.11.3 Evaluation of the Department Head**

Department Heads will be evaluated annually by their dean and departmental faculty. For evaluating the administrative effectiveness of the head, the dean solicits formal input from the entire faculty and staff of the department.

These evaluations, together with the dean’s evaluation of the department head’s performance, will be discussed with the department head and considered in future decisions regarding reappointment, rank, and salary.
3.11.4 Replacement of Department Heads for Cause

If the departmental faculty believe a head should be replaced prior to the end of the appointment period, a request containing the signatures of sixty percent of the regular faculty who have taught in that department for three or more semesters may be submitted to the dean. After consultation with departmental faculty, the dean will determine whether or not the request is in the best interest of the department. If the dean disagrees, the decision and justification will be submitted in writing to the faculty and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. If the dean agrees, he/she will, with the written approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, initiate the selection process immediately.

If the department head’s dean believes that the department head should be replaced prior to the end of the appointment period, the dean shall consult with the faculty and, in writing, notify the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the reasons for seeking a new department head. The written notification will state whether such action is supported by a majority of the faculty. If the Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with the dean’s recommendation, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will seek the President’s approval to begin a new selection. If the President concurs, the faculty of the department will be notified that a selection process will begin.

3.12 POLICIES AFFECTING FACULTY AND DEPARTMENT HEAD LOAD

3.12.1 Calculation of Teaching Load

**Lecture** – 1 Carnegie clock hour per week = 1 semester hour unit

**Laboratory** – 2 Carnegie clock hours per week = 1 semester hour unit

The load status of classes listed as arranged courses, directed readings, independent studies, or departmentally specific courses will be evaluated by the department head, the dean, and the faculty member. Such courses may be judged by the same enrollment considerations applied to other courses.

Independent study courses are discouraged and no faculty member may teach more than 3 students during the entire academic year by this method. Faculty members teaching independent studies courses do not receive additional compensation. Faculty members teaching arranged courses, directed readings or departmentally specific courses will not be asked to teach a course without proper compensation. Arranged classes, departmentally specific courses, or directed readings courses will not be taught unless adequate enrollment is obtained.

3.12.2 Office Hours

A full-time faculty member is required to schedule eight office hours per week. These hours will be spread over at least four days each week. In addition, a faculty member is expected to be available additional hours by appointment, if necessary.

Faculty with clinical and laboratory responsibilities may submit a request to the department head to include up to a maximum of four hours toward the office hour
requirement. The department head, dean, and vice president for academic affairs must approve the request prior to the semester or academic year in which the request is to be effective.

Faculty teaching on-line classes may deduct one (1) hour of office hours for each on-line class that they teach. However, they must include in their syllabus a statement that they will answer all student e-mails from their class in an expedient manner. Most questions will be addressed within 12 hours and all should be answered within 24 hours, except for weekends, holidays, and extenuating circumstances.

During the summer semester, for each three- to five-hour class, two office hours will be posted per week. Those teaching only on-line during the summer will not be expected to keep office hours on campus. However, they must, again, include a statement in their syllabi that they will strive to answer all student e-mails from their class within 24 hours, except for weekends, holidays, and extenuating circumstances.

Adjunct faculty will set aside at least one half hour either before or after class once a week in order to be available to students.

**3.12.3 Absences from Duty**

When a faculty member is to be absent from an assigned responsibility, he/she must file a statement with the department head prior to the absence containing the reason for absence and provisions made to cover the responsibilities.

**3.13 SABBATICAL LEAVE POLICY**

Sabbatical leaves of absence are among the most important means by which an institution’s academic program is strengthened, a faculty member’s teaching effectiveness enhanced, and scholarly usefulness enlarged. The major purpose is to provide opportunity for continued professional growth and new or renewed intellectual achievement through study, research, writing, and training.

However, a faculty member does not automatically earn a sabbatical leave. Instead, it is an investment by the University in the expectation that the sabbatical leave will significantly enhance the faculty member’s ability to contribute to the objectives of the University. There should be a clear indication that the improvements sought during a sabbatical will benefit the work of the faculty member, department, school, and the University. Only sabbatical leave proposals that meet this criterion will be accepted and approved by the University. Sabbatical leaves are supported as an investment in the future of the faculty member and the future of the faculty member’s students at the University.

The purposes for which a sabbatical leave may be granted may include:

1) Research on significant problems and issues.
2) Important creative or descriptive work in any means of expression; for example, writing or painting.
3) Postdoctoral study at another institution to update teaching skills.
4) Other projects satisfactory to the University.
It should be demonstrated that such work cannot occur as effectively during the regular work schedule of the faculty member.

Normally, the University will not grant a sabbatical for the purpose of pursuing work on the terminal degree in the faculty member’s academic field.

Adherence to the plan submitted by the faculty member is expected. Within two months of returning from leave, the faculty member shall submit to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, through the department head and school dean, a report of activities undertaken, which will be used in evaluating future applications for sabbatical leaves.

A faculty member who is on sabbatical leave shall not be penalized on matters of salary consideration. The report on the sabbatical will be used in consideration for merit raises in subsequent years.

3.13.1 Conditions of Award

A full sabbatical leave will be for one academic year at one-half salary or one semester at full salary. Persons who qualify for less than full sabbatical may be awarded a sabbatical on a proportional basis. Sabbatical leaves shall not be used as a means of augmenting personal income. The sabbatical program requires that persons on sabbatical devote full-time to the scholarly activity for which the sabbatical is granted and will receive no salary or stipend from sources other than the University, except that, with University approval, (1) persons on sabbatical at less than full salary may engage in other scholarly activity consistent with that for which the sabbatical is granted and receive salary, stipend, or honorarium from other sources in such amounts that total salary stipend, and honorarium do not exceed the annual income normally earned, and (2) persons on leave may receive grants from other sources for travel and research expenses incident to their scholarly activity.

Individuals receiving sabbatical leave shall enter into a written agreement to return to the service of the University and remain for a number of months equal to four times the number of months of full-time equivalent salary (example: One half (1/2) salary x ten (10) months = five (5) full-time months; the number of months to return to the University is five (5) full-time months x four (4) = twenty (20) months) or to repay the University the amount of salary received while on sabbatical leave, unless released from the obligation by the Board of Regents of The University of Oklahoma. If the individual returns to the University for only part of the time required, the amount to be paid the University shall be proportionally reduced. The University shall require any faculty member or administrator who takes a sabbatical leave to give a bond payable to the State of Oklahoma conditional on return to the University at the close of the sabbatical.

At the termination of the sabbatical, and not later than two months after returning to the campus, the individual shall submit a report of the activities undertaken to the Vice President for Academic Affairs through the department head and the dean. The report will be used to evaluate future applications for sabbaticals of faculty members who have been granted one or more sabbaticals.
3.13.2 Eligibility

Faculty members or administrators are eligible for full sabbatical leaves when they have been full-time employees of the University for six academic years. In order to qualify for a prorated sabbatical, the individual must have been a full-time employee of the University for a minimum of two academic years. For the purpose of determining eligibility for a sabbatical leave, only time spent on a sabbatical is considered as full-time employment; however, time spent on leave without pay is not considered full-time employment. A faculty member or administrator is eligible for a subsequent full sabbatical after six years following any sabbatical leave grant whether full or partial.

3.13.3 Application

A faculty member or administrator shall make formal application for a sabbatical leave which includes the reasons for requesting the sabbatical leave, the activities planned during the sabbatical, and a schedule of the use of time while on the sabbatical leave. The application should be submitted to the President of the University through the appropriate department head, dean, and Vice President. The department head, dean, and Vice President shall each include a recommendation regarding the sabbatical leave. The decision for recommendation of a sabbatical leave shall be based on the following criteria:

a) individuals presenting evidence of the highest critical need in order to maintain academic effectiveness;

b) total years of academic or professional service at the University;

c) potential contribution to an academic or professional discipline;

d) length of remaining service to the University;

e) possession of a terminal degree in the teaching field assigned; or pursuance of a terminal degree in a teaching field in which there is a shortage of qualified faculty.

3.14 EMERITUS STATUS

The Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma at its discretion may honor recommendations of presidents granting retired faculty members emeritus status and title after retirement. When members of the faculty retire under honorable conditions, they may be entitled to emeritus status and to the use of their last title emeritus (e.g., “President Emeritus,” “Professor of History Emeritus,” etc.). Retired faculty members' emeritus status and title shall be wholly honorary and does not entitle them to compensation of any kind. Emeritus status shall apply only in cases where the faculty member has been in the service of the University under the jurisdiction of this Board for at least ten years.

Emeritus status will entitle faculty to free library privileges.

Other University positions may be considered for emeritus status upon approval by the President.
ACADEMIC POLICIES

4.1 GRADING POLICY

In accordance with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Grading Policy, the following types of grading entries with respective definitions will be used for institutional transcript notations:

A. Grades Used in the Calculation of Grade Point Average (GPA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Grade Point Per Hour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Below Average</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failing</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Other Symbols

I
An incomplete grade may be used to indicate that additional work is necessary to complete a course. It is not a substitute for an “F,” and no student may be failing a course at the time an “I” grade is issued. To receive an “I”, the student should have satisfactorily completed 70 percent of the course work for the semester but be unable to complete the remaining work due to extenuating circumstances. In order for an “I” to be awarded, a contract, signed by the student and faculty member, must be on file in the Office of the Registrar. If the contract is not fulfilled within the allotted timeframe, the instructor has the option of allowing the “I” to stand or awarding an “F”. An “I” is GPA neutral.

AU
Audit status is used for the student not interested in obtaining a course grade, but who is enrolled simply to gain course information. An “AU” is GPA neutral. The allowable time to change an enrollment status from audit to credit or credit to audit is within the first five class days of a regular semester or within the first three days of the summer term. Students changing their enrollment status from audit to credit must meet institutional admission/retention standards.

N
The “N” is an indicator that the instructor did not submit the semester grade to the Registrar by the appropriate deadline. The “N” must be replaced by the appropriate letter grade prior to the end of the subsequent semester. An “N” is GPA neutral.

W
Withdrawals transacted during the first ten days of a regular semester or during the first five days of a summer term will not be recorded on the student transcript. A “W” will be recorded on the transcript for all withdrawals occurring during the third through the twelfth week of a regular (fall or spring) semester and during the second
through sixth week of a summer term. No course withdrawals, including complete withdrawals, are permitted during the last four weeks of the regular term or the last two weeks of the summer term. These deadlines are for regularly scheduled full-term courses. All other courses will have proportional withdrawal timelines. A “W” is GPA neutral.

**Student/s cannot be graded with a “W” unless they have initiated a withdrawal during the proper date guidelines as listed above.**

**AW**
Administrative Withdrawal may be assigned by the Office of Academic Affairs to indicate that a student has been “involuntarily” withdrawn from class(es) after the institution’s drop/add period for administrative or disciplinary reasons. Such withdrawals must follow formal institutional procedures. An “AW” is GPA neutral.

**P**
The “P” grade is neutral indicating minimal course requirements have been met and credit has been earned. It may also be used to indicate credit earned through advance standing or CLEP examinations. Although the “P” grade is neutral, it is counted in the total number of attempted hours for retention and the total number of attempted and earned hours for graduation.

**NP**
The “NP” grade is neutral and indicates that a student did not meet minimum requirements in a course designated for P/NP grading. Although the “NP” grade is neutral, it is counted in the total number of attempted hours for retention and the total number of attempted and earned hours for graduation.

### 4.1.1 MILITARY LEAVE

Students called to military duty after the completion of twelve (12) weeks or more of the sixteen (16) weeks of a semester who are passing in their subjects at the time they are called shall be given credit for the full semester’s work.

### 4.2 CODE OF ACADEMIC CONDUCT

#### 4.2.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### 4.2.1.1 BASIC PRINCIPLE OF HONESTY

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities, and those privileged to be members of a university community have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty and a right to expect the same standards of all others. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and therefore is unacceptable and rigorously proscribed.
4.2.1.2 DEFINITIONS

4.2.1.2.1 Academic Misconduct

Any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. The following terms illustrate but do not delimit or define academic misconduct:

a) Cheating: the use of unauthorized materials, methods, or information in any academic exercise, including improper collaboration;

b) Plagiarism: the representation of the words or ideas of another as one’s own, including:
   
   1) direct quotation without both attribution and indication that the material is being directly quoted; e.g. quotation marks;

   2) paraphrase without attribution;

   3) paraphrase with or without attribution where the wording of the original remains substantially intact and is represented as the author’s own;

   4) expression in one’s own words, but without attribution, of ideas, arguments, lines of reasoning, facts, processes, or other products of the intellect where such material is learned from the work of another and is not part of the general fund of common academic knowledge;

c) Fabrication: the falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise;

d) Fraud: the falsification, forgery, or misrepresentation of academic work, including the resubmission of work performed for one class for credit in another class without the informed permission of the second instructor; or the falsification, forgery or misrepresentation of other academic records or documents, including admissions materials and transcripts; or the communication of false or misleading statements to obtain academic advantage or to avoid academic penalty;

e) Destruction, misappropriation, or unauthorized possession of University property or the property of another;

f) Bribery or intimidation;

g) Assisting others in any act proscribed by this Code; or

h) Attempting to engage in such acts.
4.2.1.2.2 Course Dean
The dean of the school in which the academic unit offering the course at issue is assigned.

4.2.1.2.3 Code
The Code of Academic Conduct of Rogers State University.

4.2.1.2.4 Date of Service
a) When service is in person, the date the notice is actually delivered to the student, as noted on the return copy;
b) When service is by mail, the date determined as follows:

1) if notice is “signed for,” the date the notice was “signed for” as indicated on the return mail receipt; or

2) if notice is not “signed for,” the date of return to the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the mail receipt, unless notice was sent to an address other than that last provided by the student to the Office of Admissions as his or her current address.

4.2.1.2.5 Instructor
The faculty member or other person primarily responsible for instructing a particular course.

4.2.1.2.6 Regular Class Day
Any day, Monday through Friday, on which the University holds regularly scheduled classes, or regularly scheduled final examinations, except for Intersession classes.

4.2.1.2.7 Student’s Dean
The dean of the school to which the student has been admitted.

4.2.1.3 RESPONSIBILITY FOR KNOWING THE CODE
It is the responsibility of each instructor and each student to be familiar with the definitions, policies, and procedures concerning academic misconduct and unfamiliarity with the Code shall not alter any rights or responsibilities provided herein.

4.2.2 REPORTING ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

4.2.2.1 WHO MAY FILE
Any University administrative, faculty, or staff member may bring a complaint of academic misconduct by submitting a written report as provided hereafter. Students who identify an act of academic misconduct should report that act to an administrative, faculty, or staff member so that a complaint may be filed.
4.2.2.2 INVESTIGATION OF MISCONDUCT

Before imposing a grade penalty or filing a complaint of academic misconduct, the faculty or staff member shall initiate a preliminary inquiry to determine whether misconduct has occurred. During the course of this inquiry, the faculty or staff member may discuss the matter with the student suspected of misconduct and with others who may have relevant information.

4.2.2.3 ACTION BY INSTRUCTOR: ADMONITION

4.2.2.3.1 An Instructor may conclude that an incident that meets the definition of misconduct under Sec. 4.2.1.2.1 nevertheless merits an admonition rather than a disciplinary sanction as defined in Section 7. In particular, an Instructor might conclude (but is not required to conclude) that the incident is more appropriately treated as an instructional rather than a disciplinary matter. When the Instructor concludes that an admonition is the more appropriate action, the Instructor may elect to reduce a student's grade and/or require additional, remedial academic work without first filing a charge of academic misconduct, subject to the following limitations and conditions:

a. The admonition option is intended for assignments and examinations that do not involve a semester-long activity and when the incident in question is not of an egregious nature. The instructor may not use the admonition option for an incident of misconduct on a final examination, a term paper, or term project;

b. An Instructor who elects to use the admonition option may impose no grade penalty greater than loss of all credit for the assignment; and,

c. An Instructor who elects to use the admonition option must do the following before imposing the grade reduction or other requirement:

1) inform the student of the nature of and basis for the misconduct;

2) give the student an opportunity to explain;

3) admonish the student and explain the grade reduction or other requirement to be imposed;

4) where appropriate, instruct the student to resolve any confusion the student may have had regarding what constitutes proper academic conduct; and

5) inform the student how to appeal the decision. Notice of procedures for appeal shall be provided in writing; such notice shall be presumed adequate if provided in the course syllabus with a reference to the information published by the Vice President for Academic Affairs on the consequences of accepting the admonition and the procedures for appeal.

4.2.2.3.2 Unless the Vice President for Academic Affairs imposes a disciplinary sanction as described below, a student who accepts an admonition and resulting grade penalty under this subsection shall not be
deemed to have admitted guilt for an act of academic misconduct; provided, the record of the admonition may be used in any subsequent academic misconduct proceeding, as appropriate, to establish the student's prior familiarity with the fundamental rules of academic integrity.

4.2.2.3.3 The Instructor shall notify the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the admonition, ordinarily within fifteen regular class days of discovery. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall forward notice of the admonition to the Course Dean and the Student's Dean, ordinarily within fifteen class days of receipt of notice from the Instructor.

4.2.2.3.4 The student may contest the admonition by contacting the Vice President for Academic Affairs within fifteen regular class days from the date of the Instructor's notice to the student and scheduling a meeting as provided in Section 4.2.3.

4.2.2.3.5 In cases of repeated offenses or otherwise as appropriate, the Vice President for Academic Affairs may announce a disciplinary penalty as provided in Section 7. Prior to imposing such a sanction, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall send notice to the student, ordinarily within fifteen class days of receipt of notice from the instructor but in no case more than thirty regular class days after discovery of the incident. Notice of the Vice President for Academic Affairs' intent to impose a sanction shall be treated as a "complaint" for purposes of notice and hearing as provided in Sections 4.2.3 and 4.2.4 of this Code, and the disciplinary sanction shall not be imposed until the student is permitted the opportunity to respond as provided in Sections 4.2.4 and 4.2.5 of this Code.

4.2.2.3.6 Provided, where the Vice President for Academic Affairs announces a complaint, the student may contest the complaint and any fact alleged therein by contacting the Vice President for Academic Affairs within fifteen regular class days of receiving notice of the proposed disciplinary sanction, notwithstanding the student's prior acceptance of the admonition.

4.2.2.3.7 If the admonition or complaint is contested, the student retains all rights afforded under this Code to any student against whom a complaint is filed, including without limitation the right to representation, hearing, appeal, and the assignment of a neutral grade while the matter is pending.

4.2.2.4 NOTIFICATION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

All complaints shall be made in writing, ordinarily within fifteen regular class days of discovery, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. This written complaint must contain the following information, and may be more specific than what was provided in Section 4.2.2.3.3. Complaints shall include the name of the student, the class in which the misconduct occurred if applicable, the date on which the incident was discovered, a brief description of the incident, and the grade penalty to be imposed if applicable.
4.2.3 NOTICE TO THE STUDENT

4.2.3.1 NOTIFYING THE STUDENT

Ordinarily within fifteen regular class days of receipt from the complaining party, but in no event more than thirty regular class days from discovery of the incident, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall notify the student of the complaint in writing, which shall be served on the student in person or by mail.

4.2.3.1.1 CONTENTS OF NOTICE

The notice shall include a summary of the allegations, notification of the mandatory meeting described in Section 4.2.4.1, and a description of the student's right

a) to a hearing with adequate notice; and
b) to have counsel by an attorney at the student's expense;
c) and to refrain from further discussing the matter or from making any further statement regarding the matter.

4.2.3.1.2 RECEIPT OF NOTICE BY MAIL

When service is by mail, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall enclose the notice of charges in an envelope, postage prepaid, and mail the letter by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the student at the student's permanent or local address (as appropriate) on file in the Office of the Registrar. When the above steps have been taken, the return receipt, whether signed or not, shall be deemed sufficient evidence that the student has been properly served and it shall be presumed that the student has received and read the notice.

4.2.3.2 SCHEDULING OF CONFERENCE WITH VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Within two regular class days of the date of service, the student shall contact the Vice President for Academic Affairs and schedule a conference to discuss the matter as provided in Section 4.2.4.1.

4.2.3.3 DEFAULT

If the student fails to respond within the prescribed time or fails to meet as directed, the student shall be in default and thereby waives the right to all University hearings, appeals, and challenges. In the event of a default at this point, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall notify the Student's Dean, who shall confirm imposition of grade penalty and make recommendations for disciplinary sanctions.

4.2.3.4 CONTINUED ENROLLMENT PENDING RESOLUTION

A student may continue his or her regular enrollment in the University pending administrative resolution of misconduct allegations. However, while a question of academic misconduct exists, a student may not graduate or receive a transcript without approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs or his/ her designee,
and any transcript released during such period shall bear a notation that academic misconduct proceedings are ongoing.

4.2.4 RESPONSE BY STUDENT

4.2.4.1 CONFERENCE BETWEEN STUDENT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

A student charged with academic misconduct shall meet with the Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall describe the academic misconduct process, possible sanctions, and the student's rights and responsibilities under this Code. At the conclusion of the conference, the student may:

a) deny the charges--If the student denies the charges and wishes a hearing to contest them, the student must submit a written request for such a hearing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs within fifteen regular class days of the conference with the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall forward the request to the Academic Misconduct Board (AMB) within fifteen regular class days. Failure to request a hearing within the prescribed time shall waive the student's right to any University hearings, appeals, or challenges of the charges or of any sanctions imposed as a result of the academic misconduct.

b) admit the charges--If the student admits the charges, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will inform the Student's Dean, the Course Dean, and the Instructor; also, the Department Head of the Instructor's academic unit, where applicable. The Instructor shall thereafter impose a grade penalty, and the Student's Dean shall make his or her recommendation to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for further sanctions, if any. Provided, however, that if the student admits the charges but wants to confer with the Student's Dean or to submit written statement concerning extenuating circumstances affecting disciplinary sanctions, the student may do so only if done within five regular class days of the date of admission of the charge. Failure to do so within the five regular class days will result in the Dean making his or her recommendation without such information.

4.2.4.2 OPTIONAL MEETING BETWEEN STUDENT AND PERSON INITIATING THE CHARGE

Nothing herein is intended to preclude the student from discussing the incident with the person initiating the charge, if that person agrees; in fact, such a discussion is encouraged. However, once a charge is filed, such a meeting should be scheduled only after the student and the complainant confer with the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who will arrange the meeting if agreeable to the parties involved. It should be understood that any such meeting shall not extend the period of time for requesting a hearing. If, after the student meets with the charging party, the student wishes:

a) To contest the charges and has not already done so, the student must comply with the requirements for submitting the written request to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, as set forth in Section 4.2.4.1(a) above.
b) To admit to the charges and has not already done so, the student may do so by so informing the Vice President for Academic Affairs, who will then initiate the action as outlined in Section 4.2.4.1(b) above.

4.2.4.3 WITHDRAWAL OF CHARGE

It should be understood that the person initiating the charge of academic misconduct may withdraw the charge at any time prior to commencement of a hearing by the Academic Misconduct Board or, if no hearing is held, imposition of a final sanction. This is affected by sending written notice to the personnel who notified the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the charge in the first place. The personnel shall then inform, in writing, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and any others who need to know that the charge has been withdrawn.

4.2.5 ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT HEARINGS

4.2.5.1 ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT BOARD

An Academic Misconduct Board (AMB) consisting of one student and two faculty members will hear each case. Membership of the Board shall be drawn from the Academic Integrity Committee.

4.2.5.2 SCOPE OF HEARING

The focus of inquiry shall be the guilt or innocence of those accused of academic misconduct. The AMB will consider the information and arguments presented, make findings of facts of matters in dispute, and determine whether the student did engage in academic misconduct. The AMB will also hear all evidence and argument concerning extenuating circumstances that may affect decisions about what disciplinary sanctions, if any, should be imposed.

4.2.5.3 HEARING PROCEDURES

a) Once a request for a hearing has been received by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the AMB shall convene within twenty regular class days, excluding Intersession, except that the Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee may grant extensions of this time upon receipt of a request from the student, the complainant, or the Course Dean.

b) If the Vice President for Academic Affairs grants the request, release of transcripts during the extension shall be permitted as follows:

1) If the request was made by the student, the provisions of Section 4.2.3.4 regarding graduation and the release of transcripts shall remain in effect.

2) If the request was made by the complainant or the school, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 4.2.3.4, during the extension period the student may receive transcripts without notation of the pending case.

c) Written notification of a hearing must be distributed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs to the AMB, Dean, and parties involved in the hearing at
least five regular class days in advance of the hearing date, and should include:

1) The authority for the hearing and the hearing body;

2) Reference to the specific rule or rules involved;

3) Date, time, nature, and place of the hearing;

4) A brief factual statement of the charges and issues involved.

d) Students who fail to appear after proper notice will be deemed to have admitted guilt to the charges against them.

e) Parties must provide, upon request by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the AMB, or the opposing party, the name of any counsel who will be present at the hearing and a list of witnesses to be called in the hearing, along with the nature of their expected testimony, and must allow examination of any documents to be submitted in the hearing. Failure to disclose such information in a reasonable and timely manner may be grounds for delaying the hearing, suspending the provisions of this section concerning transcripts and graduation, and, in the case of repeated or egregious noncompliance, dismissing the case or declaring guilt by default. The AMB holding the hearing may adopt such other procedural rules as it deems necessary and proper to expedite hearings and promote fairness.

f) Hearings will be closed to the public and shall be confidential, although an open hearing may be held at the discretion of the AMB, if agreed by all parties.

g) The presiding officer of each AMB shall exercise control over the hearing to avoid needless consumption of time and to prevent harassment or intimidation.

h) Hearings shall be recorded.

i) At the beginning of the hearing, any party may challenge any AMB member, one at a time, on the grounds that he or she is unable to give the student a fair and impartial hearing. The remaining members of the hearing body shall decide the challenge by secret ballot. However, if the entire AMB is challenged, the entire AMB shall rule on the challenge. The hearing will continue if at least two faculty members and one student remain.

j) Witnesses shall be asked to affirm that their testimony is truthful.

k) Prospective witnesses other than the complainant and the student may be excluded from the hearing during the testimony of other witnesses. All parties, the witnesses, and the public shall be excluded during AMB deliberations.
l) The burden of proof shall be upon the complainant, who must establish the
guilt of the respondent by a preponderance of the evidence.

m) Formal rules of evidence shall not be applicable in these proceedings. The
presiding officer of each AMB shall give effect to the rules of confidentiality
and privilege.

n) The AMB shall not receive or consider arguments about the legality of any
procedure under which a charge has been brought or the legality of the
procedures under which the hearing is proceeding. Such questions should
be presented in writing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

o) All parties shall have reasonable opportunity to question witnesses and
present information and argument deemed relevant by the AMB.

p) Final decisions of the AMB shall be by majority vote of the members present
and voting. The final decision of the AMB shall contain a written statement
setting forth with reasonable particularity, findings of fact, the decision on
each of the charges, its recommendations for disciplinary sanctions, and the
reasoning behind these decisions. These materials shall be transmitted as
described in Section 4.2.5.4, together with the AMB’s record of the
proceedings and a summary.

q) Depending upon the gravity of the case, the AMB, at its discretion, may
require the parties to submit written briefs and responses, including
supporting documents, setting forth the respective positions dealing with all
issues.

4.2.5.4 RESULTS OF THE HEARING

4.2.5.4.1 DISMISSAL OF CHARGES BY THE AMB

If the AMB finds that the facts do not support the allegation, the charges
will be dismissed. The chair of the AMB shall transmit the decision in
writing to the appropriate deans and the Vice President for Academic
Affairs within fifteen regular class days of the conclusion of the hearing.
All other AMB records of the case shall be destroyed after twenty regular
class days of such transmittal. The Vice President for Academic Affairs
shall then notify the student in writing of the decision of the AMB. The
matter is then ENDED.

4.2.5.4.2 WHEN FACTS SUPPORT ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE
STUDENT

4.2.5.4.2.1 AMB ACTION

If the AMB finds that the facts support the allegations against the
student, the student shall be found guilty. After a finding of guilt, it
is the duty of the AMB to recommend appropriate disciplinary
sanctions. Some relevant factors the AMB may consider in
determining a sanction recommendation include, but are not limited
to:

a) The facts that have been presented to the AMB at the hearing;
b) Any mitigating or extenuating circumstances that have been presented by any party during the hearing;

c) Prior academic misconduct on the part of the student.

After weighing all factors it considers relevant, the AMB shall recommend disciplinary sanctions to the Student’s Dean. The AMB’s findings and recommendations shall be made in writing within fifteen regular class days of the conclusion of the hearing.

4.2.5.4.2.2 DEAN’S ACTION

Based upon the facts of the case and any relevant factors, the Student’s Dean shall determine if any disciplinary sanction is to be recommended to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. If the recommendation of the Student’s Dean differs from that of the AMB, the Student’s Dean shall provide in writing the reasoning for his or her recommendation.

The Student’s Dean shall, within fifteen regular class days of receipt of the AMB’s report, send to the Vice President for Academic Affairs in writing:

1) the AMB’s record of proceedings, including a summary;

2) the written decision and recommendation of the AMB holding any hearing; and

3) the recommended sanction of the Student’s Dean.

Within fifteen regular class days of receipt of the AMB’s report, the Student’s Dean shall also notify the appropriate parties of the AMB’s findings and recommendations. These parties may include the student, the counsel for the student (if any), the Course Dean, (if different from the Student’s Dean), the faculty or staff member who notified the Course Dean of the incident, the counsel for the University, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

4.2.6 GRADE PENALTIES

4.2.6.1 IMPOSITION OF GRADE PENALTIES

An Instructor has an obligation to impose grade penalties once the charge is upheld. These penalties may include, but are not limited to:

a. Requiring the student to complete a substitute assignment or examination.

b. Awarding the student a failing grade on the examination or paper or on those portions of it on which the student was engaged in academic misconduct.
c. Lowering the student's final grade in the course or award a failing grade of "F" in the course.

The weight of the grade penalty as calculated in the final grade may exceed the weight of the work in which the misconduct occurred.

4.2.7 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The disciplinary sanctions noted below may be recommended by the AMB and/or the Student's Dean to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The examples are illustrative of each category of disciplinary sanctions, are not intended to be totally inclusive, and omission of a particular act shall not be construed as indicating that such an act is acceptable or appropriate. Furthermore, the acts described do not need to result in the disciplinary sanctions noted if judgment suggest otherwise.

4.2.7.1 CENSURE

A written reprimand for violation of acceptable standards of academic conduct. This action takes formal notice of the student's act of academic misconduct and provides a formal warning that a further act of academic misconduct may result in severe action. Censure shall not be noted on a student's transcript, but will be noted in the Student Affairs Office. Copies of the letter of censure shall be provided to the student, the Student Affairs Office, the Student's Dean, the Course Dean (if different than the Student's Dean), and, if applicable, the head of the department in which the course is taught, and the Instructor. The sort of academic misconduct which might result in censure might be a case in which a student has copied on an examination and in which it seems that the cheating was the result of momentary panic. There would be no reason to suppose that the student had planned to cheat and there would be no prior record of academic misconduct.

4.2.7.2 COMMUNITY SERVICE ALTERNATIVE

In appropriate cases, a student may be allowed to perform voluntary community service in lieu of suspension and may, upon satisfactory completion, receive a lesser sanction. No student may be compelled to perform community service as part of any sanction imposed under this Code. In the event that a student refuses community service the student will receive the harsher sanction of limited or permanent notation suspension. In the event that a student accepts a community service alternative, the terms and duration of such service shall be approved by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The sort of academic misconduct which would result in the offer of the community service option would be a case in which mitigating factors counsel against the imposition of a limited notation suspension.

4.2.7.3 LIMITED NOTATION SUSPENSION

Suspension from classes and other privileges for a period of not less than one full semester. A notation of suspension for academic misconduct shall be made on the student's transcript. However, in the case of limited notation, such transcript notation shall be removed upon the student's graduation from the University or four years from the date of the suspension, whichever comes first.
The sort of academic misconduct that might result in limited notation suspension might be a case of classroom cheating involving some prior planning, or some cases of plagiarism in which it seems that the plagiarism may have occurred partially because of mitigating circumstances.

4.2.7.4 PERMANENT NOTATION SUSPENSION

Suspension from classes and other privileges for a period of not less than one full semester. A notation of suspension for academic misconduct shall be made on the student’s transcript. In the case of permanent notation, there will be no time limit to such transcript notation. The sort of academic misconduct which might result in permanent notation suspension might be a case in which knowing and substantial plagiarism has occurred, or a case of classroom cheating in which it is determined that extensive collaboration or planning was involved, or other cases substantially involving one or more aggravating factors such as planning, collaboration, or concealment.

4.2.7.5 EXPULSION

Termination of student status for an indefinite period, usually intended to be permanent. A notation of expulsion for academic misconduct shall be made on the student’s transcript. Such notation shall be a permanent notation. If a student is reinstated after an expulsion, it is only after a complete reconsideration of his or her case. The sort of academic misconduct which might result in expulsion might be a case in which the student has been involved in a prior incident of academic misconduct; the student has submitted to the University forged documents such as transcripts; a student has taken someone else’s examinations or arranged for someone else to take his/hers; commercial term papers have been submitted; examinations, grade books, grade sheets, or other instructor possessions have been stolen, copied, or otherwise utilized; or destruction of the academic work of others or intimidation has been used in an attempt to influence the academic process.

4.2.7.6 RECORDS OF SANCTIONS AND ADMONITIONS

Records shall be maintained as follows:

a) Records of admonitions and the sanction of Censure shall be maintained for four years, subject to review as provided in part (c) of this section. Records of grade penalties shall be maintained permanently.

b) Records of disciplinary sanctions other than Censure shall be maintained permanently, subject to review as provided in part (c) of this section.

c) Students and former students who have received a disciplinary sanction for academic misconduct may at any time request that the record be removed from their student file. This is an extraordinary step requiring a showing of good cause by the student. The request, along with the reasons therefore, must be submitted in writing to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
4.2.7.7 DETERMINATION OF DISCIPLINARY SANCTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION

It shall be the responsibility of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to review the materials sent by the Student's Dean and to determine and implement the appropriate action and disciplinary sanctions. Implementation of the appropriate action or disciplinary sanctions by the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall end the process. The Vice President for Academic Affairs shall attempt to inform the student in writing of the action being taken. A letter to the student at the address last provided the University by the student shall be sufficient to meet this requirement. Copies of the letter may also be provided other parties who have a legitimate need to know of the action.

4.2.8 POST-SANCTION PROCEDURES

4.2.8.1 GROUNDS FOR APPEAL

The recommendation of the AMB as to the facts shall be appealable within the University to the Academic Vice President if;

a) it can be established that specified procedural irregularities were so substantial as to effectively deny the student a fair hearing; or

b) new and significant evidence becomes available which could not have been discovered by a reasonably diligent student before or during the original hearing.

4.2.8.2 REHEARING AND PETITION FOR REVIEW

Findings of fact shall be accompanied by a concise and explicit statement of underlying facts supporting the findings. A copy of the written final decision of the AMB - as described in 4.2.5.3(p) -shall be delivered or mailed to each party and his/her attorney of record. For questions of procedures and/or hearings, see the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act. In all cases, the President and the Board of Regents of the University reserve the right to review, at their discretion, any decision of a hearing body for manifest error or inequity.

4.3 FINAL GRADE APPEAL PROCESS

The responsibility for academic evaluations of students rests with the faculty. If a student feels s/he has received a prejudiced or capricious final grade by an instructor, and if s/he is unable to resolve the matter in an informal conference with the instructor or Department Head, a more formal process is provided except for those cases that arise where specialized policies and procedures shall apply at the department/program level.

1. Students may appeal a final grade through an informal or formal procedure after the grade
has been posted. Students wishing to informally appeal a final course grade must adhere to
the following steps:

a. The student must first discuss the grade with the Instructor. Ideally, this process is
grounded on the premise that resolution should occur at the level of the Instructor and
student relationship. However, if the issue is still unresolved, the Instructor and/or student may find it necessary to consult with the Department Head. (If the Instructor is the department head, the appointment must be made with the Dean of the School in which the course is offered).

b. If dissatisfied at this point, the student must next make an appointment with the Dean of the School in which the course is offered. The student must bring a written statement of the problem(s) to this meeting. If the Instructor is the Dean, the appointment must be made with the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

c. The Dean will research the issues presented and may elect to hold a conference with both the Instructor and the student to mediate the problem(s). If the Instructor involved is the Dean, the Vice President for Academic Affairs may mediate with the student’s request.

2. If no satisfactory resolution results from the informal grade appeal (this informal process must be completed within thirty regular class days, excluding summer sessions, of the grade being officially posted) the student may file a formal grade appeal to be considered by a Grade Appeal Board (GAB) appointed from the Academic Integrity Committee. The GAB will consist of two faculty members, at least one of whom must be from the School in which the appeal is filed, and a student. The appeal form must be filed with the Dean of the School in which the course is offered within thirty regular class days, excluding summer sessions, of the grade being officially posted. Appeal forms are available in the Registrar’s Office, the Office of Academic Affairs, and the School Dean’s office. The following steps will be followed:

   a) The Vice President for Academic Affairs will contact the student to complete a formal grade appeal form. The student will provide all necessary documentation to the Vice President for Academic Affairs with the formal grade appeal form, including the following:

      1. Written statement of the problem(s) discussed with the Dean;
      2. Any records, documentation (such as medical records) or evidence supporting the grade appeal claim.

   b) The GAB will then review the grade appeal documentation within the scope of whether the request has met at least one of the following criteria:

      1. Did the Instructor communicate to the class the method by which the grade would be determined?
      2. Was the method communicated to the class followed by the Instructor in calculating the grade?
      3. Was the calculation of the grade mathematically correct?
      4. Was the student graded in the same manner as other members of the class?
      5. If the method of determining the grade was altered after the semester began, was the method communicated and applied uniformly?
      6. Is the student alleging extraordinary extenuating circumstances beyond his/her control, for which documentation is submitted?

   c) The GAB will review written documentation submitted by the student and any documentation received from the Instructor. The GAB will have ten regular class days to
render a decision. The GAB does not take into consideration approving or disapproving an Instructor’s teaching methods or choice of assignments. At the conclusion of this review, the GAB will propose one of the following courses of action:

1. Render a judgment of upholding the posted grade; or
2. Recommend an appeal hearing to review and render a decision.

d) If the GAB decides to hold a formal hearing (within 10 regular class days), the Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for notifying all concerned parties of the time, date, and place of the hearing. The GAB will hold a closed hearing with the student, the Instructor, and any witnesses. Names of witnesses must be submitted to the Vice President for Academic Affairs at least 48 hours before the hearing. Neither the student nor the Instructor should discuss the appeal with the GAB members, opposing witnesses, or each other before the hearing.

e) The GAB will submit its recommendation in writing within five regular class days of the conclusion of the hearing to the Chair of the Academic Integrity Committee and to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Registrar’s Office, the student, the appropriate Dean’s office, and the Instructor will be notified of the decision within five regular class days.

f) If the appeal results in a decision to change a grade, the Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for notifying the Instructor to modify the grade. Once the grade change is submitted, the Registrar’s Office, the student, and the appropriate Dean’s office will be formally notified.

g) All decisions of the Vice President for Academic Affairs in consideration of the GAB recommendations will be final. In all cases, the President and the Board of Regents of the University reserve the right to review, at their discretion, any decision of a hearing body for manifest error or inequity.

4.4 STUDENT ABSENCES FOR UNIVERSITY SPONSORED EVENTS

In general, regular student attendance in classes is required. A student is responsible for the content of each course in which s/he is officially enrolled. At the beginning of each course the instructor will define and quantify attendance standards, procedures for verifying unavoidable absences, and methods of dealing with missed assignments and examinations. Class attendance policies that impact grades will be included in the course syllabus. Instructors will keep a record of daily attendance for each student. This procedure will be important in verifying student attendance for financial and/or legal reasons.

Specifically, when students are absent from classes due to participation in a University sponsored activity (academic events, field trips, athletics, etc.) in connection with some co-curricular or extra-curricular activity, arrangements to complete course requirements must be initiated by the student, in advance, so that the effect on the total instructional program may be considered. Absence from classes as a result of a University-sponsored activity, official military service, or jury duty does not in any way relieve a student from responsibility for the work missed; Faculty are expected to make reasonable accommodations for students to complete the work, and may not arbitrarily penalize a student’s grade resulting from such activity.
APPENDIX A

Rogers State University

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

The criteria used to assist in evaluation of faculty for advancement in rank (promotion), tenure, and special recognitions are adapted from Ernest L. Boyer’s Scholarship Reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate, and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ The Core of Academe: Teaching, Scholarly Activity, and Service

Teaching

“Teaching” is assessed using six criteria that revolve around the core areas of teaching: instruction, assessment and evaluation of that instruction. Examples and definitions of the criteria are not all inclusive. Criteria examples are generalized to multiple instructional delivery modes and styles.

Evaluate all criteria in reference to course evaluations and syllabi from each class taught over the previous semester, as well as the previous academic year’s department evaluation. Evidence of criteria will not necessarily include documentation of all examples listed.

Criterion 1: Demonstrates subject matter mastery.

Examples
- Disseminates appropriate scholarly information to students.
- Supplements textbook content with recent and relevant information.
- Makes appropriate and timely changes in the course to reflect current information.
- Chooses appropriate textbook and/or instructional materials for the course.
- Reinforces appropriate cognitive, affective, and/or psychomotor skills in students.

Criterion 2: Designs course within a scheme of the overall curriculum and program objectives.

Examples
- Distributes a course syllabus with clearly stated objectives, content, and requirements.
- Includes relevant and meaningful learning activities.
- Plans for delivery of content relative to specific course and overall program objectives.
- Recognizes diversity and varying learning styles in students.
- Reviews course content as well as instructional and assessment strategies on a regular basis so that courses are current and maintain relevancy.
- Uses and plans for innovative teaching methods when applicable.

Criterion 3: Delivers instruction effectively.

Examples
- Motivates students to achieve their best.
- Demonstrates appropriate and timely use of teaching strategies, i.e., higher order questioning, inquiry method, group discussions, simulation, independent study, analogies, and parables.
- Promotes learning approaches suitable to the course objectives, i.e., memorization, analysis, synthesis, application.
- Shows how the present topic is related to those topics that have been or will be taught.
- Changes instruction based on the results of formative assessment and student feedback.
- Provides closure by summarizing and fitting into context what has been taught.
- Designs courses so that student learning time for instructional and learning activities is appropriate.
- Uses audio-visual and technological teaching aids effectively and appropriately.
- Makes available opportunities for students to learn from primary sources of information associated with a particular discipline or area of study. I.e. labs, guest speakers, documents, and databases
- Minimizes obfuscatory sesquipedalian rhetoric.

**Criterion 4:** Evaluates student achievement on identified criteria.

*Examples*
- Explains grading system in course syllabus.
- Inform students of any modification of grading system as the course progresses.
- Uses a variety of assessment techniques (peer reviews, projects, papers, essay examinations, objective examinations, oral reports, etc.).
- Evaluates student learning in practical, laboratory, field-based activities which are based upon communicated observational criteria when appropriate.
- Provides feedback to students on tests, papers, oral reports and observations.
- Keeps students informed of current grade in course.
- Posts and/or returns graded tests and papers promptly either in person or electronically in a safe, secure manner.

**Criterion 5:** Serves as an academic advisor and/or mentor.

*Examples*
- Interacts and communicates with students in a positive professional manner.
- Assists students in making informed and relevant academic decisions as an academic advisor.
- Advises, consults, and or directs student research and/or capstone projects.
- Facilitates students’ development as an independent thinker and learner in terms of their educational plan.

**Criterion 6:** Fulfills instructional administrative responsibilities related to the particular mode of instructional delivery employed.

*Examples*
- Meets all traditional face-to-face classes as scheduled at their designated time, as well as arriving promptly and holding class for the duration of the scheduled time.
- Conducts final examinations as scheduled.
- Files enrollment, attendance, and grade reports in accordance with university practice.
- Submits textbook orders on a timely basis.
- Is responsible for instructional laboratory materials, supplies, and equipment. Maintains adequate posted office hours whether by electronic or face-to-face means.
- Is available by appointment in addition to posted office hours.
- Consistently responds to and frequently interacts with students according to their needs for feedback.
Research and Creative/Scholarly Activity

Research and Creative/Scholarly Activity is essential to the well-rounded faculty member. Faculty display their professional credentials by “[demonstrating their] capacity to do original research, study a serious intellectual problem, and present to colleagues the results” (Boyer, 27). In addition, scholarship enables faculty to remain current with developments in their academic disciplines. Through scholarship and research, a faculty member contributes to specific academic disciplines, the university community, and the professional community.

Evaluation is not solely based upon the quantity of scholarship produced, but, for example, on its quality, originality, contribution to an academic discipline, the institution, education and/or the general public.

Some activities indicative of scholarly activity include:

- Produces, exhibits, or performs creative works that are recognized locally, regionally, nationally, or internationally.
- Delivers invited or competitive lectures, papers, speeches, or presentations at colleges or universities, professional meetings, conventions, and conferences, through face-to-face or virtual attendance.
- Submits products of scholarship for peer review, or reviews/edits products of scholarship.
- Collaborates with colleagues at the local and other campuses in activities oriented toward making a contribution to the advancement of knowledge, methodology, or development of a discipline.
- Applies for and receives grants and awards.
- Obtains local, state, regional, national or international recognition for recent, as well as past contributions, to a particular field of study by a variety of means (requests for reprints, invitations to read papers, citations of research, invitations to exhibit, requests for interviews as expert in the field, etc.).
- Participates in conferences, institutes, short courses, seminars, and workshops that are related to the faculty member’s discipline, through face-to-face or virtual attendance.
- Publishes the results of research, scholarship, and creative endeavors through vehicles such as monographs, textbooks, papers, abstracts, book reviews, poems, plays, musical compositions, final reports for grants, web-sites, computer software or hardware systems, accounting systems, etc.
- Holds membership in professional societies relevant to a specific discipline.
- Obtains copyrights or patents on works produced.
- Engages in specific self-study or a professional growth plan to enhance professional competency.
- Edits or evaluates scholarly activity such as journals, papers for journal publication, grant proposals for awards, chapters for books, proposals for conference papers, or other scholarly activity with respect to a field of study.
- Creates and/or reviews teaching materials (textbooks, teacher’s manuals that accompany textbooks, pedagogical procedures, etc.)

Professional and University Service and Community Engagement

Professional and University Service and Community Engagement are an integral component to the well-rounded faculty member. It allows for contributions to the university community, the
professional community, and the community at large. Individual or personal service improves the functioning of the university, strengthens the effectiveness of professional organizations and provides a presence for the university in the community. It should be noted that simple membership or a position “in name only” does not constitute service. Rather, one must contribute to the committee or position in a substantive way.

Service can be divided into three equally important areas. The areas and a non-inclusive list of representative examples of each area are listed below. Further, a faculty member need not excel in each of the three categories; however, consideration should also be given to those who contribute in several different capacities.

**Professional Service:** encompasses those areas which serve the *professional community*.

- Functions as an officer of a local, regional, national, or international professional organization or society
- Establishes relationships with any government agencies, business, or industry
- Consults with or serves as requested in government, business, and/or industry to provide service in any capacity from the faculty member’s area of expertise

**University Service:** encompasses those areas which serve the *university community*.

- Serving on departmental, school, and university standing and ad-hoc committees
- Serving in a university organization (e.g. Faculty Senate)
- Completing special projects or studies for the university (e.g. contributing to a hiring process, a Higher Learning Commission visit, or an impact study; planning a university activity, event or function)
- Serving as a Faculty advisor to a student club, organization, or society
- Being a facilitator for a non-credit workshop (e.g. grant writing, promotion/tenure portfolio)
- Serving as a mentor or a contact person for new faculty

**Community Engagement:** encompasses areas which serve the *community at large*.

- Service to or membership in various outside local, city, county, state, regional, federal, or international groups and organizations
- Volunteer work for various outside local, city, county, state, regional, federal, or international groups and organizations
- Any miscellaneous community activities that are not considered to be part of Institutional or Professional Service.
The exemplars are not all-inclusive for each criterion but do provide examples and extend the definitions of the criteria. These should be used as guidelines and they can be adapted for the individual discipline area.

**CATEGORY 1: TEACHING**

Teaching effectiveness should be the most basic attribute upon which a faculty member is judged for promotion. The areas of teaching effectiveness should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Command of one’s subject
- Ability to organize subject matter and to present it clearly, logically, imaginatively.
- Knowledge of current development in one’s subject matter.
- Ability to relate one’s subject to other areas of knowledge.
- Ability to provoke and broaden student interest in the subject matter.
- Ability to develop and utilize effective teaching methods and strategies.
- Availability for and effectiveness in academic advising and directing of students.
- Integrity, fairness, and objectivity in grading or otherwise evaluating students.
- Recognition by other faculty and students as superior teacher.
- Have made outstanding contributions to instructional programs, curriculum and/or methodologies.

**CATEGORY 2: RESEARCH AND CREATIVE/SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY**

Effective teaching requires active involvement in the intellectual and scholarly developments in the faculty member’s area of specialization. To be considered for promotion, the faculty member should give evidence of:

- Adequate grasp of one’s area of specialization.
- Continuing efforts to remain abreast of developments in the area of specialization.
- Application of recent scholarship to teaching.
- Other efforts to continue academic growth.
- Engage in research or other scholarly activities, these might include, but are not limited to:

  - Publication of books, articles, chapters, essays, reviews or other scholarly efforts.
  - Presentation or publication of original productions or creative works before either scholarly audiences or other appropriate forums.
Participation in academic conferences, meetings, institutes, or other activities.
Service on statewide committees.
Consultation with individuals, groups, or organizations utilizing the faculty member’s professional expertise.
Innovative applications of technology in support of teaching or research.

CATEGORY 3: PROFESSIONAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Departmental

Faculty involvement in departmental activities besides teaching is required. Departmental service may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Service on departmental committees.
- Performing departmental and/or instructional program administrative duties.
- Developing the departmental or instructional program curriculum and/or courses.
- Have served in leadership capacity in appropriate departmental activities.
- Have, when possible, assumed leadership in the design, development or implementation of new techniques, strategies, courses, academic programs, degrees or other academic endeavors.

University

Faculty service to the university outside instructional duties should be considered in evaluation for promotion. Such service may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Participation in committees or organizations within the governance structure.
- Service on ad hoc or advisory university bodies outside the governance structure.
- Performance of special administration functions.
- Participation in program and/or curriculum development.
- Service as a representative of the university and other bodies.
- Service as a liaison between Rogers State University and other bodies.
- Have assumed positions of leadership in the performance of such service.

Community

Community service appropriate for consideration in promotion/evaluation decisions should be based upon the academic or professional expertise of the faculty member and should reflect favorably upon Rogers State University. Such service might include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Service in the faculty member’s area of expertise as a consultant, a resource person, or a researcher.
• Giving lectures, serving on panels, performing in creative activities, or otherwise participating in community activities directly related to university functions.
• Serving as the university’s designated representative at appropriate community functions.

Student

Faculty service to students outside of instructional duties should be considered in evaluation/promotion. Such service may include, but is not limited to, the following:

• Participation in department or university recruitment activities.
• Sponsorship or directorship of student professional organizations.
• Sponsorship of student clubs and social organizations.
• Supervision of other organized student activities.

CATEGORY 4: PERFORMANCE OF NON-TEACHING OR ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES (IF APPLICABLE)

• Supervises practica
• Leads an educational study tour
• Manages a research project
• Directs a workshop or conference
• Directs or coordinates an academic program or administrative office
• Heads an academic department

Note: Only activities that result in reduced teaching load qualify for CATEGORY 4.
APPENDIX C

Rogers State University

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Name: __________________________

Rank: __________________________

Having reviewed the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 3.8.5 through 3.8.9, and having reviewed Appendices A and B for Development and Evaluation Criteria, I agree that I will focus faculty development for the academic year indicated above according to the following items:

_______% Proportion to teaching (50-80%)

_______% Proportion to research and creative/scholarly activity (5-40%)

_______% Proportion to professional and University service and community engagement (10-45%)

_______% Proportion to performance of non-teaching or administrative duties (25-50%)

Faculty Evaluation Criteria:

1. Teaching:

2. Research and Creative/Scholarly Activity:

3. Professional and University Service and Community Engagement:

4. Performance of Non-Teaching or Administrative Duties:

AGREED TO BY

___________________________
Faculty Member

___________________________
Date

ACCEPTED BY

___________________________
Department Head

___________________________
Date

ACCEPTED BY

___________________________
Dean

___________________________
Date
APPENDIX D

Rogers State University

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN REPORT

Name: _________________________

Rank: _________________________

By September 15, faculty members are to revise and update the previous year’s Faculty Development Plan. Before the conference with their respective department head, faculty members are to conduct a year-end self-evaluation and succinctly describe progress for each exemplar listed in the preceding year’s Faculty Development Plan. A brief statement indicating whether the exemplar was fully accomplished, partially accomplished, or not addressed is appropriate. Faculty members may also list any activities completed the preceding year that were not previously included in the Faculty Development Plan. When completed, faculty members are to schedule a conference with their department head.

_______% Proportion to teaching (50-80%)

_______% Proportion to research and creative/scholarly activity (5-40%)

_______% Proportion to professional and University service and community engagement (10-45%)

_______% Proportion to performance of non-teaching or administrative duties (25-50%)

Faculty Evaluation Criteria:

1. Teaching:

2. Research and Creative/Scholarly Activity:

3. Professional and University Service and Community Engagement:

4. Performance of Non-Teaching or Administrative Duties:

AGREED TO BY

___________________________ ________________________
Faculty Member Date

ACCEPTED BY

___________________________ ________________________
Department Head Date

ACCEPTED BY

___________________________ ________________________
Dean Date
APPENDIX E

ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION SUMMARY
(For department head use only. Must be completed by October 1st)

Name ___________________________ Department ___________________________ Date _____________

Rank _____________________ Tenure ___________ Date of Appointment ________________ Evaluation Period ________________

Date of Last Promotion ___________ Date of Employment at RSU ________________

Highest Degree Held ________________ Yrs. of College Experience Prior to RSU __________ Other Relevant Experience ________________

| PERFORMANCE EVALUATION |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Category                | Critical | Needs Improvement | Proficient | Commendable | Outstanding |
| 1. Teaching             |          |                    |            |               |                 |

Comments:

2. Research and Creative/Scholarly Activity

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3. **Professional and University Service and Community Engagement**

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4. **Performance of Non-Teaching or Administrative Duties**

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**Overall Performance**
### Justification for overall evaluation if other than proficient:


### Specific areas needing attention:


### Plans for improvement:


### This evaluation was discussed by:


and


on


__________________________
Department Head’s Signature

__________________________
Faculty Member’s Signature

__________________________
Date


### Faculty Member’s comments:


