

FACULTY MEETING
March 6, 2015

MOTION

The Office of the Dean of the Faculty and Vice Presi

Rationale:

Skidmore's faculty is comprised of tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure track faculty in full- and part-time appointments. Contingent appointments include Librarians, Artists- and Writers-in-Residence, Teaching Associates, Visiting Professors and full- and part-time Lecturers. Although the Faculty Handbook (FHB) defines each rank as well as the reappointment and advancement procedures for tenured and tenure-track faculty, Artists-in-Residence, Writers-in-Residence, and Teaching Associates, it is circumspect about the reappointment and termination of Lecturers and visiting faculty. Furthermore, the FHB does not contemplate advancement of full-time faculty in these ranks. The omission is significant given that VAPs and full-time Lecturers, with seven years or more of continuing service at the College, comprise approximately 40% of the faculty in full-time contingent appointments and, much like those in the regular ranks, are central to the fulfillment of our educational mission. VAPs and full-time Lecturers teach classes, studios, and labs; they also direct independent student theses and supervise internships; additionally, they advise and mentor students, participate in student-faculty collaborative research, and contribute to College and departmental governance.

In the past five years (data up to June 1, 2013), we have employed one hundred and ninety Visiting Assistant or Associate Professors (only a fraction at the highest rank) and eighty-nine full-time Lecturers. Included in this number are nineteen VAPs and eleven Lecturers who have received successive contract renewals, amounting to ten or more years of service. It is a fact that we would be unable to deliver the curriculum

In Section C. Non-Tenure Track Faculty add the following paragraphs:

4. Teaching Professors:

The criteria for reappointment and for promotion

5. Lecturers:

The criteria for reappointment and for promotion of full-time Lecturers

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g. If the Dean of the Faculty/Vice President for Academic Affairs' decision is negative, the Dean of the Faculty/Vice President for Academic Affairs by March shall remind those appointees in the final year of their contracts that their contracts terminate at the end of that academic year.

h. After the second two- or three-year contract Teaching Professors and full-time Lecturers who are reappointed will receive an additional contract length of which will depend on departmental and institutional need. The extension can be for one, two or three years. Additional reviews will happen every second or third year depending on the length of the new contract.

In Section F. Promotion, number 2 Procedures for Promotion, add the following paragraphs:

e. Teaching Professors

Promotion to Senior Teaching Professor is granted