

Report to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee

Oct. 7 2008

This report covers the activities of the Committee in 2007-2008.

The Advisory Committee on Retention, Promotion, and Tenure consists of six members elected by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and charged with reviewing recommendations made by Arts and Sciences departments and programs concerning the retention, promotion, and/or tenure of members of the home departments. The Committee's recommendations are forwarded to the Dean of the Faculty. Retention (interim review) cases usually come to the Committee only when a department or program recommends against retention or the Dean disagrees with a department or program recommendation.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, the Committee reviewed 15 departmental recommendations for tenure and appointment to Associate Professor. Of the 15 cases, the Committee forwarded to the Dean 12 positive recommendations and three negative recommendations. The Dean disagreed with one of the Committee's negative assessments and forwarded a positive recommendation to the Provost.

The Committee also reviewed 13 cases from departments recommending promotion to Full Professor. All thirteen received positive endorsements from the committee—although one required additional information requested by the Dean from the Department in question and a reconsideration and revised recommendation by the Committee.

Finally, the Committee recommended the hiring of two new faculty members at the rank of Associate Professor with tenure and a third member at the rank of Professor.

When a member of the Committee had a conflict of interest in the case of a candidate (e.g., a member of the same department or interdisciplinary program), the committee was replaced for that discussion and decision by a recent past member of the Committee from the same Area.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, the Committee is scheduled to review 17 Departmental recommendations for tenure and promotion in the Fall of 2008.

Committee Members 2007-2008:

David Armstrong, Susan Donaldson (chair), Joan Gavalier, Will Hausman, Christopher Howard (fall 2007), Marc Sher, Mary Voigt (spring 2008)

Committee Members 2008-2009:

Christopher Abelt, David Armstrong (chair), Susan Donaldson, Maryse Fauvel, Will Hausman, Kris Lane (fall 2008), Christopher Howard (spring 2009)