

Visibility of College Tenure Process Documents

The vote tallies for this Resolution are

Yes = 64

No = 4

Abstain = 2

DNV =56.

The Resolution

Whereas the processes that pertain to the granting of tenure are of utmost importance both to the candidate and the university;

Whereas it is essential to promote the clarity of these processes, their consistency with university level guidelines, and their accessibility;

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends that each college make all its tenure-related procedures publicly visible on its website.

Voter Comments

Voters were able to upload comments on their ballot. Below are the comments so obtained.

While we support the aim of making the tenure process as transparent as possible to everyone directly involved in it, we do not see any compelling argument being made here for making college tenure procedures and policies any more transparent than they already are. In our college, tenure procedures and policies are already available to everyone within the college and the entire university community. Furthermore, college policy stipulates that copies of these procedural guidelines be distributed to tenure-track faculty at the time of the initial hire, again at the time of the third-year review, and again, to all tenured faculty in departments conducting tenure reviews. Making these documents available online to the general public will not serve any desirable purpose. It seems particularly imprudent in our current age of virulent social media, the politicization of tenure denial cases, and general public animosity toward higher education. One effect of making tenure procedures and policies public will be to exacerbate precarious circumstances and contribute to the targeted harassment of those involved in the tenure process.

The more transparency in tenure process, the better.

This is a no-brainer. Should have been done long ago.

Thanks for these excellent efforts, Carl Franck, Physics