

**University of South Carolina School of Medicine  
Columbia**

**Tenure and Promotion Procedures and Criteria for  
Tenure-Track Clinical Unit Faculty**

Approved by the Clinical Unit Tenure and Promotion Committee on 28 April 2017

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## University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia

### Tenure and Promotion Procedures and Criteria For Tenure-Track Clinical Unit Faculty

#### I. Preamble

The University of South Carolina School of Medicine is a University-based, community-oriented medical school whose mission includes the development and implementation of programs for medical education, research, and the delivery of health care in order to improve the health of the people of South Carolina.

Demands on faculty in clinical departments may include responsibilities for patient care, administrative tasks, research, and teaching medical students, postgraduate students (residents and fellows), undergraduate students on the main campus, and graduate students. To assure quality practice as a basis for clinical teaching and role modeling, faculty must maintain clinical competence.

To evaluate faculty members in the School of Medicine, the promotion/tenure criteria of excellence in teaching, scholarship/research, and service/patient care should be viewed as a means of ensuring that faculty members meet performance expectations. Since all three activities are significant and necessary for the academic health of the school, they are considered in promotion and tenure decisions. Criteria for promotion and tenure will follow the Faculty Manual.

The following document provides a structure for achieving this balance in evaluating faculty members in clinical departments who apply for promotion and/or tenure. Candidates must provide evidence that their work performance consistently meets the standards established in this document.

Academic rank is determined in large part by the faculty member's achievements and reputation as a scholar and contributions to the overall mission of the institution. Expectations for academic ranks are described in the University of South Carolina *Faculty Manual* in force at the time of the UCTP approval of the unit criteria. In the event of conflicting standards or principles between this document and the *Faculty Manual* of the University of South Carolina, the *Faculty Manual* takes precedence. A decision to grant tenure is derived from recognition that a faculty member's record of action and performance so strongly predicts future academic productivity as to justify a career-long commitment between the University and the faculty member.

The following procedures and criteria provide a structure for appointing, evaluating, promoting, and awarding tenure to faculty members in clinical departments who occupy tenure-track positions. Evaluation of performance should be based on both quantitative and qualitative estimates of activities

relevant to the candidate's work.

## **II. Procedures**

### **A. Committee Structure and Function**

The Tenure and Promotion Committee will consist of all tenured faculty at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor in the clinical departments of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. All tenured associate professors and tenured professors are eligible to vote on candidates seeking tenure at and/or promotion to the associate professor level. All tenured professors are eligible to vote on candidates seeking tenure at and/or promotion to the professor level. Faculty members of equal or higher rank may vote on candidates for tenure but only faculty of a higher rank may vote on promotion. As the administrator of the department, the Department Chair may either vote with the unit or add a letter of recommendation to the candidate's file. He/she may not do both.

The committee will elect a chair for a two-year term in the fall semester of alternate academic years. The chair must be a tenured professor. In the second year of the two-year term the faculty must hold a reaffirming vote and report the results of the vote to the Provost.

### **B. Voting**

Decisions of the Tenure and Promotion Committee will be by majority vote of all members. A minimum number of one more than half of the eligible committee members must be present to convene a meeting at which official business may be conducted. Voting on matters of promotion and tenure will be conducted by secure electronic communication. When voting for the tenure and/or promotion at the rank of professor, or to consider changes to the Unit criteria, at least five faculty members at the rank of full professor must be actively serving on the committee. When fewer than five faculty members are eligible to vote for a candidate who is seeking tenure at and/or promotion, the tenured full professors within the Unit will select tenured faculty of appropriate rank outside the Unit to achieve a total of five faculty members eligible to and able to vote. In such a situation the candidate's program faculty will submit a list of names of eligible members (tenured, full professors from the University faculty), vitae, and justifications for selection to the Dean. The submitted list must contain two more names than are needed for the selection. To ensure a thorough and fair review, the justifications will address the compatibility of the scholarly pursuits of the proposed committee members and those of the candidate. The selection will be made by the tenured full professors serving on the committee, and shall be determined separately for each candidate, and the outside member may vote for only that specified candidate. Similarly, for consideration of Unit criteria

changes, tenured professors from other Units in the University will be selected by the Unit's tenured professors to reach the minimum number of five. Selection of all outside members for the Unit is subject to the approval of the Dean under advisement of the T&P membership committee.

A quorum shall be defined as a simple majority of the total number of eligible voting faculty counting those present physically or through various forms of communication as established by the Unit Chair.

Meetings at which candidates are considered for promotion and tenure are closed to everyone except those eligible to vote on the candidate. Meetings may by rule, motion, or invitation of the chair of the meeting, be opened to anyone the body wishes to be present at the meeting and/or be heard. Administrators attending the meeting should refrain from introducing material that is appropriate for consideration at another administrative level.

The Unit members shall apply the Unit's criteria and procedures to determine whether a candidate qualifies for tenure, promotion, or both. Votes will be recorded as "YES", "NO", or "ABSTAIN" using a secret electronic ballot system. Voting faculty are encouraged to submit ballots unsigned, however, ballots that are voluntarily signed by the voting faculty member shall not be disqualified. Written justification of all votes at the unit level shall be mandatory and shall state specifically how the candidate meets or does not meet the unit's criteria. Proxy voting is not permitted.

A faculty member on leave may vote only upon written notification to the department chairperson or dean of his or her desire to do so before beginning the leave of absence.

Ballots will be returned to the Dean's office and forwarded to the Chair of the Tenure and Promotion Committee (or his/her designee). Decisions will be by simple majority, counting only the justified "YES" and "NO" votes of all members. "ABSTAIN" votes and any unjustified ballots will not be counted toward the total other than in establishing an appropriate majority. A positive majority vote is defined as at least half of the total votes being cast as "YES".

Both Associate Professors and Professors may vote on promotions to the rank of Associate Professor, whereas only Professors may vote on promotions to the rank of Professor. Faculty who are administrators or officers of the University, including department chairs, and the dean may not vote or make recommendations on a file in more than one capacity or at more than one level. The chair~~man~~ of the Promotion and Tenure Committee will inform the Dean of the results of balloting in promotion and tenure matters.

### C. **General Procedures & Qualifications**

All School of Medicine procedures will be in conformity with the University-wide timetable for tenure and promotion considerations and will comply with the University of South Carolina procedures in the current Faculty Manual.

All tenure-track faculty members in the Unit who have completed the minimum years of service (as defined by the faculty manual) may be considered for tenure, and all faculty members below the rank of professor are considered for promotion each year. The Dean's office, in collaboration with the department chair, is responsible for notification of the individual faculty members under consideration. Potential candidates for tenure and promotion will be advised of their eligibility for tenure or promotion by the dean, department chair, or other appropriate administrator by the date included in the university tenure and promotion calendar on the provost's website. A faculty member who intends to apply for tenure or promotion in the next cycle must so inform the dean, department chair, or other appropriate administrator no later than 15 calendar days after the first notification. On the dates listed on the official calendar, the unit must provide the provost with a list of those faculty members who intend to apply for tenure or promotion. The list must also include any faculty members in their penultimate year who have not stated their intent to apply for tenure and must, therefore, include all who are in their penultimate year. Faculty members in the decision year do not have the option of not being considered for tenure.

### D. **The Tenure and Promotion File**

The faculty member desiring consideration must submit an updated file to the department chair by the University deadline. It is the candidate's responsibility to provide compelling evidence that s/he has fulfilled all requirements of the Unit criteria for promotion and/or tenure. A candidate and the academic unit should follow UCTP guidelines for compiling files. The record of teaching, research, and service shall be thoroughly documented in the file. The Unit is responsible for (a) providing a synthesis of evaluations of the candidate's teaching performance in accordance with the prevailing procedures established by the Provost and UCTP at the time the file is submitted, (b) obtaining at least five evaluations of the candidate's research and scholarship from outside the University of South Carolina, (c) ensuring that the correct criteria are used, and (d) the candidate's file is assembled in a manner consistent with UCTP guidelines.

The candidate's file should contain the following items when relevant to the Unit's criteria:

- A summary of teaching activity and evaluations of teaching performance, including peer and student evaluations;

- A list of publications, papers presented, grant proposals, etc.
- A list of service activities, such as clinical responsibilities, work for college and university committees; student advisement, participation in professional societies, and relevant, public service;
- Documentation of experience at the University of South Carolina;
- Description of relevant experience elsewhere;
- Description of participation in interdisciplinary education and research activities;
- All external evaluations of a candidate's scholarly and other professional activities received by the unit;
- In addition, the candidate should compose a Personal Statement that helps the reviewers of the file understand the candidate's perspective, the significance of the achievements, and explains any special circumstances relevant to the candidate's record.

**E. Letter from Outside Reviewers.**

Unit procedures for evaluation of the candidate's file require at least five evaluations of the candidate's research scholarship and reputation be obtained from impartial scholars at peer or aspirant institutions within the field, outside the University of South Carolina. If a person can be shown to be one of the leading scholars in a particular field, that person may be used as an outside evaluator even if he or she is at an institution that is not peer or aspirant. Non-university specialists may be used as outside evaluators; however, the majority of evaluators normally must be persons with academic affiliations. Persons who have co-authored publications, collaborated on research, or have been colleagues or advisors of the applicant normally should be excluded from consideration as outside evaluators. All evaluators must be asked to disclose any relationship or interaction with the applicant that might conflict with rendering an objective evaluation of scholarly performance. The outside evaluators must be selected by the Unit except as provided below for jointly appointed faculty.

In the case of a joint appointment, each secondary unit must be given an opportunity to propose outside evaluators and to comment on evaluators proposed by the primary unit. Primary and secondary units should work together to obtain a suitable, representative group of evaluators. In any event, an evaluation must be solicited from at least one evaluator nominated or approved by each secondary unit. The unit should include in the file a summary of the professional qualifications of each outside evaluator or a copy of each evaluator's curriculum vita, along with a copy of a letter requesting the evaluation and informing the evaluator of the unit's relevant criteria for tenure or promotion.

Each evaluator should be provided with a letter requesting the evaluation and informing the evaluator of the Unit's relevant criteria for appointment or promotion, the candidate's vita and up to five representative publications selected by the candidate, and other materials evidencing the candidate's research or such portion

of the candidate's research as the evaluator is being asked to evaluate. The evaluator will be asked to evaluate the quality of the research, including the quality of publication venues. Where appropriate, the evaluator will be asked to evaluate the quantity of the candidate's research and scholarship.

A summary of the professional qualifications of each outside evaluator and/ or a copy of each evaluator's curriculum vita must be included in the file, along with a copy of the letter sent to the evaluator.

#### **F. Evaluation of Teaching**

University procedures for the evaluation of teaching require peer and student evaluations, conducted periodically throughout the faculty member's appointment at the University. A summary and evaluation of the faculty member's teaching, based on clearly specified criteria, must be included in the faculty member's promotion file. This summary should give context to student evaluations of the faculty member's teaching by noting, e.g., whether evaluations of a particular class historically have been low; in a multi-section course, how the faculty member's evaluation scores compare with those in the other sections; or whether poor evaluation scores are correlated to a faculty member's strict grading standards. Additional information regarding teaching performance shall be considered in accordance with the specific provisions within these Unit criteria as outlined in the "Criteria for Achievement" section below.

#### **G. Qualifications & Requirements for Tenure and Rank Appointments**

##### **1. Eligibility Criteria**

- Earned doctoral or discipline terminal degree.
- Current USCSOM tenure track faculty appointment within a clinical department.
- For physicians, board certification or satisfactory eligibility or equivalent experience base and clear licensure status with the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation Board of Medical Examiners.
- For PhD clinicians, board certification or satisfactory eligibility or equivalent experience base and clear licensure status (if applicable).
- For PhD researchers (non-clinicians) must have satisfactory eligibility or equivalent experience base.

Faculty members are responsible to meet all elements of the criteria under which they are applying for promotion. If the candidate is eligible under more than one set of criteria, the candidate must designate which set of criteria they have elected. For tenure and for promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor, the candidate may choose either the promotional criteria in effect at the time of their initial hiring, or the most current promotion criteria at the time of their application for promotion. For promotion from Associate Professor to Professor, the faculty member shall be responsible for meeting T&P criteria and University standards in effect at the time of their application for promotion.

The general performance in the areas of teaching, scholarship/research, and service/patient care comprises the basis for evaluation for promotion.

The USCSOM Tenure and Promotion Committee requires that the percentage of effort assignments, among the three areas of teaching, scholarship/research, and service/administration/patient care be established by the candidate's departmental chair. A candidate's percentage of effort assignment is determined by averaging the percentage of effort assignments recorded in the candidate's Annual Faculty Evaluation for the years under consideration. It is recognized that achievements in a given area may be limited by the effort assigned, i.e., by limits imposed by the candidate's job description. Nevertheless, all candidates must meet minimum standards stated in the Unit criteria, with higher expectations for candidates with relatively higher effort in any specific category.

Qualifications for appointment, as set forth in the University Faculty Manual (listed below) are not intended as justification for automatic promotion; conversely, justified exceptions may be made.

Criteria for all tenure and promotion decisions shall require a record of accomplishment indicative of continuing development of the faculty member in research, teaching, and service, and appropriate progress toward development of a national or international reputation in a field. Criteria for tenure at any rank must require evidence of consistency and durability of performance.

**Tenure.** To be eligible for tenure, the faculty member must have earned the rank of Associate Professor or Professor. Promotion to Associate Professor can be concurrent with the awarding of tenure. An assistant professor may apply for promotion to associate professor without applying for tenure if the faculty member is not in the penultimate year of the maximum probationary period. A faculty member may not be tenured at the rank of assistant professor. A candidate's record must provide evidence of consistent and durable performance in research and scholarly accomplishments, in teaching, and in service. While length of service at the University can be a factor in determining the consistency and durability of a tenure candidate's performance, substantial prior experience or an exceptional record of accelerated



contributions can play the same role.

**Assistant Professor.** To be eligible for appointment at the rank of assistant professor, a faculty member normally is expected to hold the earned doctor's degree or its equivalent and must possess strong potential for development as a teacher and scholar. For practicing physicians and other doctoral level clinicians, certification by the appropriate certifying medical board (if applicable) is required. Tenure may not be awarded to any faculty member at this rank.

**Associate Professor.** To be eligible for appointment at the rank of associate professor, a faculty member must have a record of excellence in either research or teaching accompanied by at least a good record in the other areas. Additionally, a candidate must show evidence of progress toward establishing a national or international reputation in a field. The faculty member normally is expected to hold the earned doctor's degree and must possess strong potential for further development as a teacher and scholar.

**Professor.** To be eligible for appointment at the rank of professor, a faculty member must have a record of excellent performance in both teaching and research, or recognized professional contributions, and at least a record of good performance in service. The faculty member normally is expected to hold the earned doctor's degree and have at least nine years of effective, relevant experience. Additionally, the candidate must have evidence of a national or international reputation.

The qualifications for appointment to these positions and positions bearing other titles, such as lecturer, clinical professor, or research professor, are specified in the University Policy ACAF 1.06 Unclassified Academic Titles and are subject to periodic change.

#### *H. Jointly Appointed Faculty*

In situations in which a faculty member holds a joint appointment between this Unit and another unit of the University, the criteria for granting tenure or promotion to the jointly appointed faculty member shall be those of the primary unit. For faculty members holding joint appointments, each secondary unit must be given an opportunity to propose outside evaluators and to comment on evaluators proposed by the primary unit. Primary and secondary units should work together to obtain a suitable and representative group of evaluators. An evaluation must be solicited from at least one evaluator nominated or approved by each secondary unit. Thus, when a jointly appointed faculty member's primary unit is USCSOM, the faculty member will follow these unit criteria for tenure and promotion. When a jointly appointed faculty member's secondary unit is USCSOM, the School's Tenure and Promotion Committee will work collaboratively with the primary unit to select a suitable and representative group of evaluators.

Any department or program that is the secondary unit for one or more faculty members with joint appointments must have in effect a written statement of procedures, which must be approved by the University Committee on Tenure and Promotion, and by which the views of all faculty eligible to participate in evaluation of the candidate will be solicited and provided for inclusion in the candidate's file. In cases in which the secondary unit does not achieve consensus regarding a file, the secondary unit may submit two letters for inclusion in the candidate's file: A majority and a minority report.

Any department that is the primary unit for one or more faculty members with joint appointments must include in its criteria processes for (1) involving each secondary department or program in the selection of outside evaluators; (2) making the candidate's file available to eligible faculty of each secondary unit; and (3) obtaining formal input from the eligible faculty of each secondary unit and placing it in the candidate's file at least five working days prior to the unit's vote on the application. Faculty who are members of both the primary and secondary unit can only vote in the primary unit.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) must be in place for all faculty members holding joint appointments. The MOU should include (1) identification of the tenuring unit; (2) teaching load and split of teaching load between the primary and secondary units; (3) formula and criteria for sharing indirect cost return (IDCR) among the units; (4) service responsibility load and split between the units; and 5) detailed procedures for addressing Faculty Manual requirements for involvement of the secondary unit or program in selecting outside evaluators, making the candidate's file available to eligible voting faculty of the secondary unit, and the collection and inclusion of input from faculty from the secondary unit into the candidate's file at least five working days prior to the date of any scheduled meeting to vote on the candidate's file. The MOU should include signatures of the jointly appointed faculty member, the unit heads of the primary and secondary units, the deans of the colleges in the units reside, and the provost. The teaching load for a joint appointment should not be greater than for a faculty member of the same rank in the primary unit. The service load for a joint appointment should be comparable to normal service load of a faculty member of the same rank in the primary unit. The MOU should be included in the candidate's primary file.

I. **File submission and handling**

1. **Appointment Procedures**

Appointment of tenure-track faculty of the USCSOM at the rank of associate professor or professor will require review by the USCSOM Tenure and Promotion Committee.

The curriculum vitae, application materials, and the rank recommended

by the departmental chair for candidates for appointment will be submitted to the Committee.

The Committee will evaluate the curriculum vitae and application materials and make a recommendation concerning the most appropriate faculty rank for the candidate.

The Chair of the Tenure and Promotion Committee will forward the recommendation to the Dean's office along with supporting material.

The Dean or Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs will solicit input about prospective appointees from the department chair prior to forwarding the Dean's recommendation along with that of the Tenure and Promotion Committee to the Provost.

## **2. Tenure and Promotion Procedures**

The department chair will be notified of the University timetable for tenure and promotion each year. It is the responsibility of the department chair to notify all appropriate faculty of the timetable each year. Faculty must notify their department chair or dean in writing indicating whether or not they will request tenure and/or promotion each academic year.

Any faculty member desiring consideration for tenure or promotion must submit a completed file to the Unit Tenure & Promotion Committee by the deadline specified in the Provost's Tenure and Promotion Calendar for the appropriate academic year. The Unit T&P Committee will contact outside referees and obtain agreement to review files according to the Provost's T&P Calendar.

The candidate bears primary responsibility for preparation of the file on which the decision will be based. The candidate should see to it that appropriate materials have been prepared and submitted for all sections for which he/she is responsible. The faculty member shall include a sheet listing the materials he/she has included in the file. The Provost office also provides a list indicating the expected order of materials in Tenure and/or Promotion files. Included in each file must be the original letter of appointment and in the case of a joint appointment, a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The candidate should consult the most current version of the UCTP Guide to Tenure and Promotion in preparing for file submission.

Both the candidate and the academic unit should assemble files that contain the following items if and when relevant to the criteria and to the candidate under consideration:

- a) Evaluations of teaching performance;
- b) A list of publications, papers presented, grant proposals, and the like;
- c) As appropriate, evidence of creativity.
- d) A list of service activities such as clinical patient care, work on unit, college and university committees, student advisement, participation in professional societies, and relevant public service;
- e) Documentation of experience at the University of South Carolina;
- f) Description of relevant experience elsewhere;
- g) Description of participation in interdisciplinary education and research activities; and
- h) All external evaluations of a candidate's scholarly or creative achievements and other professional activities received by the units.

The chair of the unit Tenure and Promotion Committee shall ensure that the file is correctly assembled and made available to the members of the unit committee for evaluation prior to the discussion of the file.

Consideration of promotion requires that at least five evaluations of the candidate's scholarship and research be obtained from impartial scholars at peer or aspirant institutions within the field, outside the University of South Carolina.

The candidate may solicit additional letters of support, which will be filed in a separate section from that of the external referees' letters. Written letters from previous years are not automatically included in the file, however, they may be included if written permission from the author is obtained.

Promotion and tenure must be considered separately, with independent ballots, but the two may be considered concurrent with one another. Since it is not permissible to award tenure at the rank of assistant professor, failure to achieve promotion from assistant professor to associate professor would disqualify a candidate from receiving tenure regardless of the outcome of the vote regarding tenure.

The chair of the Tenure and Promotion Committee will forward all recommendations to the Dean with supporting material for consideration by the Dean.

The Dean will review the file, add an assessment and recommendation, and forward the file to the Provost.

The Provost will review the file, add an assessment and recommendation and forward the file to the University Committee on Tenure and Promotions.

If the unit fails to give the candidate a favorable vote, the unit's T&P chair (or if the chair is not privy to the unit proceedings, a designated senior faculty member who was) will notify the candidate promptly and shall, upon request by the candidate, without attributions, provide the candidate with a written synopsis of the discussion and an indication of the strength of the vote of the unit. Candidates dissatisfied with the unit's recommendation may send a written request to the chair of the unit's tenure and promotion committee for the file to move forward, and should consult the Faculty Manual guidelines on grievance procedures. Only if the candidate files a written appeal in this manner will the file be forwarded to the next level of review; i.e., department chair or dean.

After the unit has voted, only the following items may be added to the file:

- a. Unit faculty vote justifications, and statements from the department chair, dean, and Provost accompanying the file to the next steps of the procedure.
- b. The votes and justifications of the members of the UTPC
- c. Material information arising as a consequence of actions taken prior to the unit vote, for example (a) letters from outside evaluators solicited before but received after the unit vote; (b) notifications of acceptance of manuscripts referred to in the file; (c) publication of books or articles which had been accepted prior to the unit vote; and (d) published reviews of a candidate's work which appear after the unit vote.
- d. Letters from faculty members in the unit. Each faculty member, whether or not authorized to vote, may write to the department chair, and/or the dean and/or the Provost. Each of these letters will become part of the file at the addressee's level. In the case of joint appointments, letters from the secondary units will also be included.
- e. If new information is received by the UCTP that may not be added to the file under the provisions described above, it shall not be considered by the UCTP in its deliberations regarding its recommendation.

Failure to recommend favorably at a particular time is without prejudice with respect to future consideration.

### **III. Tenure and Promotion Criteria**

Evidence of progressively effective performance is required for advancement through faculty ranks. Members of the Tenure and Promotion Committee will be guided by the following criteria in making their recommendations:

#### **A. Assistant Professor to Associate Professor**

Promotion from the rank of Assistant Professor to the rank of Associate Professor should be requested only if individuals show strong potential that they will become leading teachers, scholars/researchers, or clinicians. Promise should be substantiated by evidence. A candidate at the rank of Associate Professor must possess maturity of judgment, personal and professional integrity, highly motivated productivity, potential for leadership, and commitment to institutional and professional goals. Candidates should demonstrate a commitment to teamwork and active participation in faculty development activities. The USC Columbia Faculty Manual (9/June/17) specifies that: *“Unit criteria for promotion to associate professor and for tenure at the rank of associate professor shall require, at a minimum, evidence of excellence in either research and/or creative activities or teaching, accompanied by a good record in the other areas, and evidence of progress toward establishing a national or international reputation in a field”*.

Accomplishments in a faculty position at another educational institution may be considered in evaluating a candidate for promotion to Associate Professor, however, work accomplished at USC is to be weighted more heavily than work performed elsewhere, prior to joining the University faculty. There is no absolute minimum time of service at USC for faculty hired from another institution to be considered for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor.

#### **B. Associate Professor to Professor**

Promotion from the rank of Associate Professor to the rank of Professor should be based upon promise fulfilled. A move to the rank of Professor should be accompanied by evidence of attainment of national or international stature in a field. Additionally, a candidate for promotion at the rank of Professor must demonstrate maturity of judgment, personal and professional integrity, leadership skills, administrative abilities, and commitment to institutional and professional goals. Candidates should demonstrate a commitment to teamwork and active participation in faculty development activities. Promotion from the rank of Associate Professor to the rank of Professor generally requires, at a minimum, evidence of excellence in research (or creative activities) and teaching, accompanied by a record in service that is at least good, and evidence of national or international stature in their field. It is generally expected that the candidate has a record of continuous scholarly activity. Exceptions should be noted and explained in the candidate’s personal statement.

Accomplishments in a faculty position at another educational institution may be considered in evaluating a candidate for promotion to Professor; however, work accomplished at USC is to be weighted more heavily than work performed elsewhere, prior to joining the University faculty. There is no absolute minimum time of service at USC for faculty hired from another institution to be considered for promotion to the rank of Professor, however, a total length of service in academia of nine years is generally considered to be the minimum.

C. **Tenure**

The faculty member must have earned the rank of Associate Professor or Professor. Promotion to Associate Professor can be concurrent with the awarding of tenure. A candidate's record must provide evidence of consistent and durable performance in research and scholarly accomplishments, in teaching, and in service. While length of service at the University can be a factor in determining the consistency and durability of a tenure candidate's performance, substantial prior experience or an exceptional record of accelerated contributions can play the same role.

D. **Criteria for Achievement**

1. **Scholarship**

Scholarship is of primary importance in the USCSOM. Faculty members are expected to maintain a continuous record of peer-reviewed work that contributes to the knowledge base in the faculty member's respective discipline. Of major importance are peer-reviewed articles in high-quality journals, research grants or scholarly projects with external support, authored or edited books, book chapters, monographs with recognized publishers, and disseminated and peer-reviewed curricular materials. Development of new curricular materials or methodologies may be considered as teaching activities or research/scholarship activities depending on their dissemination and the degree to which external peers are engaged in their review. Due to the diversity of the disciplines represented within the Unit, the distribution of scholarly activities may vary.

- a. **Outstanding:** There must be an exemplary record of campus leadership in research/scholarship and publications of merit and significance with the candidate ideally reflecting a mixture of roles including collaborative team member, principal collaborator and/or senior author. It is not possible to give a precise, quantitative criterion for the number of publications, since the scope and influence of the work must be weighed in each case. All candidates must meet minimum standards stated in the Unit criteria, with higher expectations for candidates with relatively higher effort in any specific category. Work that is published in high impact journals or venues should be given more weight, as should collaborative clinical or curricular research that advance the institution's

clinical, research and/or teaching missions. Peer-reviewed published curricular materials may be counted, and should be weighted in proportion to the effort required to produce the material as well as its relative impact, if known. Research grants awarded represent significant achievements as peer-reviewed scholarly activities. Consistent mentoring in research/scholarship of junior faculty within the USCSOM that results in demonstrable results is also evidence of an “outstanding” performance level.

In addition, the candidate’s scholarship should have become recognized by three or more of the following: approval or funding of a competitive research grant with candidate as the principal investigator; editorship for a refereed professional or scientific journal; appointment to a study section, scientific task force, or advisory group for NIH or equivalent; participation in a national/international task force or committee to establish clinical practice standards; or a consistent record of invited scientific presentations at national or international meetings.

Documentation will include copies of publications, evidence of other peer recognition as described, record of grant funding achievements as recorded in the University Research Office USCera (or equivalent) system, and favorable review of the significance of the candidate’s scholarship in outside letters of reference. Five or more outside referee letters should attest to the candidate’s achievement of a state, regional or national reputation in some area in his or her field. Manuscripts that are in preparation or under review may not be counted unless they are accepted for publication after the candidate’s file is submitted.

- b. **Excellent:** There must be evidence of campus leadership in research/scholarship and a very strong record of publications of merit and significance with the candidate reflecting a mixture of roles including collaborative team member, principal collaborator and/or senior author. It is not possible to give a precise, quantitative criterion for the number of publications, since the scope and influence of the work must be weighed in each case. However, if a candidate is ~~is~~ devoting 100% of effort to research then the candidate would be expected to have published approximately 15 publications. Work that is published in high impact journals or venues should be given more weight, as should collaborative clinical or curricular research that advance the institution’s clinical, research and/or teaching missions. Peer-reviewed published curricular materials may be counted, and should be weighted in proportion to the effort required to produce the material as well as its relative impact, if known. Research grants awarded represent significant achievements as peer-reviewed scholarly activities. Book reviews, letters to the editor, published or unpublished abstracts of presentations, and other non-peer reviewed materials represent lesser accomplishments but may be considered as supporting evidence in meeting this requirement.



In addition, the candidate's scholarship should have become recognized by one or more of the following: approval or funding of a competitive research grant with candidate as the principal investigator; editorship or editorial board membership for a refereed professional or scientific journal; regular reviewer for recognized peer-reviewed journals or of grant proposals for a study section of a competitive grant-awarding agency; appointment to a study section, scientific task force, or advisory group for NIH or equivalent; participation in a national/international task force or committee to establish clinical practice standards; or several refereed scientific presentations at national or international meetings.

Documentation will include copies of publications, evidence of other peer recognition as described, record of grant funding achievements as recorded in the University Research Office USCera (or equivalent) system, and favorable review of the significance of the candidate's scholarship in outside letters of reference. Manuscripts that are in preparation or under review may not be counted unless they are accepted for publication after the candidate's file is submitted. Successful mentoring of junior faculty within the USCSOM in research/scholarship that results in demonstrable results is also evidence of an "excellent" performance level. Outside letters should attest to the candidate's achievement of a state, regional or national reputation in some area in his or her field.

**c. Good:** There must be publications of merit and significance as senior author or principal collaborator. It is not possible to give a precise, quantitative criterion for the number of publications, since the scope and influence of the work must be weighed in each case. However, if a candidate was devoting 100% effort to research then the candidate would be expected to have published approximately 10 publications. Work that is published in high impact journals or venues should be given more weight, as should collaborative clinical or curricular research that advance the institution's clinical, research and/or teaching missions. Peer-reviewed published curricular materials may be counted, and should be weighted in proportion to the effort required to produce the material as well as its relative impact, if known. Research grants awarded represent significant achievements as peer-reviewed scholarly activities. Book reviews, letters to the editor, published or unpublished abstracts of presentations, and other non-peer reviewed materials represent lesser accomplishments but may be considered as supporting evidence in meeting this requirement.

Documentation will include copies of publications, evidence of other peer recognition as described, and favorable review of the significance of the candidate's scholarship in outside letters of reference. Manuscripts that are in preparation or under review may not be counted unless they are accepted for publication after the candidate's file is submitted.

- d. **Fair:** Peer-reviewed publications of merit and significance. It is not possible to give a precise, quantitative criterion for the number of publications, since the scope and influence of the work must be weighed in each case. However, if a candidate was devoting 100% of effort to research then the candidate would be expected to have published approximately 5 publications. Work that is published in high impact journals or venues should be given more weight, as should collaborative clinical or curricular research that advance the institution's clinical, research and/or teaching missions. Peer-reviewed published curricular materials may be counted, and should be weighted in proportion to the effort required to produce the material as well as its relative impact, if known. Research grants awarded represent significant achievements as peer-reviewed scholarly activities. Book reviews, letters to the editor, published or unpublished abstracts of presentations, papers submitted but not yet accepted, and other non-peer reviewed materials represent lesser accomplishments but may be considered as supporting evidence in meeting this requirement.

Documentation will include copies of published work and drafts of work that have been accepted by a journal or are in press. Manuscripts that are in preparation or under review may not be counted unless they are accepted for publication after the candidate's file is submitted.

## 2. Teaching

The USCSOM places a priority on teaching. Teaching refers to all forms of medical instructional activities (undergraduate, graduate, or continuing medical education) on and off campus, including teaching assigned modules, courses, clerkships and training programs; engaging in curricular and program development; development of learner-centered & active learning activities; establishment of effective methods of learner assessment; and competency-based approaches in medical/healthcare education. Development of new curricular materials or methodologies may be considered as teaching activities or research/scholarship activities depending on their dissemination and the degree to which external peers are engaged in their review. Clinical teaching and supervision are recognized and valued for contributing to effective instruction in the Unit. Due to the diversity of the disciplines represented in this Unit, the type and distribution of teaching activities may vary considerably between different faculty members. Candidates are encouraged to present diverse teaching/education accomplishments in a portfolio to support the criteria outlined in IV.2.a. through IV.2.d below.

- a. **Outstanding:** There must be recognition as a highly effective teacher of either medical students, graduate students, residents, and/or fellows. Documentation will include an average rating greater than 4.5 on a 5-point Likert scale where higher numbers are associated with better performance (with allowance made for equivalent performance when available data are scaled differently) on student and

peer evaluations and other formal metrics for teaching evaluation. The faculty member should document leadership and mentoring in teaching, and demonstrate active participation and clear leadership in curricular integration, and teaching-related faculty development activities. Candidates should provide clear evidence of the use of active learning in the classroom, and innovation in teaching and assessment. Clinicians whose teaching is primarily in the form of patient care may offer alternative forms of evidence of performance that may be unique to their diverse learning environments. In this case, candidates should articulate the connection between advancement of learners in clinical practice settings where prevailing norms related to classroom teaching of university courses do not apply or do not fully capture the value added for assigned learners (e.g. clinical fellows, residents, interns, preceptor-students, etc.).

In addition, at least two of the following achievements will be documented: publication in a refereed journal on educational issues; multiple teaching awards from residents or medical students; peer teaching beyond the institution at regional, state, or national professional meetings (including CME/CPD); receipt of a career teacher grant or award, or serving as principal investigator for a training grant awarded to the candidate's department; or development of a new department, clinical fellowship or residency program will also be evidence of proficiency in this area.

- b. Excellent:** There must be recognition as an effective teacher of medical students, graduate students, and/or residents. Documentation will include an average rating greater than 4.10 on a 5-point Likert scale where higher numbers are associated with better performance (with allowance made for equivalent performance when available data are scaled differently) on student and peer evaluations and other formal metrics for teaching evaluation. The faculty member should document active participation and leadership in curricular integration and teaching-related faculty development activities. Candidates should provide evidence of the use of active learning in the classroom, and innovation in teaching and/or assessment. Clinicians whose teaching is primarily in the form of patient care may offer alternative forms of evidence of performance that may be unique to their diverse learning environments. In this case, candidates should articulate the connection between advancement of learners in clinical practice settings where prevailing norms related to classroom teaching of university courses do not apply or do not fully capture the value added for assigned learners (e.g. clinical fellows, residents, interns, preceptor-students, etc.).

In addition, publication in a refereed journal on educational issues; teaching awards from residents or medical students; peer (including CME/CPD) teaching beyond the institution at regional, state, or national professional meetings; or receipt of a career teacher grant or award, or serving as principal investigator for a training grant awarded to the department; or development of a new department, clinical fellowship or residency program will also be evidence of proficiency in this area.

- c. **Good:** There must be recognition as an effective teacher of medical students, graduate students, and/or residents. Documentation will include an average rating greater than 3.70 on a 5-point Likert scale where higher numbers are associated with better performance (with allowance made for equivalent performance when available data are scaled differently) on student and peer evaluations and other formal metrics for teaching evaluation, with favorable letters from the clerkship and/or training director(s) as appropriate. The candidate should document active participation in teaching-related faculty development activities as a learner, and participation in curricular development. Clinicians whose teaching is primarily in the form of patient care may offer alternative forms of evidence of performance that may be unique to their diverse learning environments. In this case, candidates should articulate the connection between advancement of learners in clinical practice settings where prevailing norms related to classroom teaching of university courses do not apply or do not fully capture the value added for assigned learners (e.g. clinical fellows, residents, interns, preceptor-students, etc.).
- d. **Fair:** There must be recognition as an effective teacher of medical students, graduate students, and/or residents. Documentation will include an average rating greater than 3.30 on a 5-point Likert scale where higher numbers are associated with better performance (with allowance made for equivalent performance when available data are scaled differently) on student and peer evaluations and other formal metrics for teaching evaluation, with favorable letters from the module, clerkship and/or training director(s) as appropriate. The faculty member should document some participation in teaching-related faculty development activities as a learner. Clinicians whose teaching is primarily in the form of patient care may offer alternative forms of evidence of satisfactory performance (as above).

### 3. Service/Patient Care

The faculty of the USCSOM recognizes a responsibility to provide service to the medical school, hospital system, University, the community, and the profession. Faculty engage heavily in service through their patient-care activities. As an academic unit within the University, faculty members participate in a broad range of intellectual, social, and governance activities, and lend their professional expertise to advance their disciplines through work with outside organizations. In addition, faculty members extend their expertise to service activities that support their profession and their professional development, engaging in a broad range of professional and community service activities.

- a. **Outstanding:** Candidate will have served the department in a major administrative role (e.g., with oversight for a clinical, teaching, or research program that has multiple program elements, typically requiring supervision of the work of junior faculty or comparable personnel; or a similar major role or roles, continuing over several years, in a regional, state, or national

professional organization); or the candidate will have demonstrated an “Outstanding” patient care record reflecting a high level of both care and patient satisfaction, supported by a letter from the departmental chair or vice chair over clinical services that demonstrates an extraordinary level of performance that can be achieved by few individuals or development of a national/international reputation that draws patients internationally or nationally. In addition, the candidate’s administrative leadership will have received regional, state, or national recognition by peers; or the candidate will have achieved regional, state, national or international prominence in some aspect of patient care.

The candidate will have demonstrated exemplary citizenship to the School of Medicine through effective leadership and service on committees either within the School of Medicine or at the University level.

As examples, faculty can satisfy the basic service/patient care requirements for outstanding performance by having served effectively as chief of a clinical program (e.g., ward, outpatient clinic, or consultation service); as director of a training program (or the equivalent), Division Chief, Vice Chair, Chair of a department, Assistant or Associate Dean for a period of three or more years, or demonstrated a mentoring role to other faculty in improving patient outcomes or quality measures.

Documentation of an “Outstanding” *patient care record* requires that the candidate will provide evidence of a statewide or national reputation for expertise and innovation in the diagnosis and/or treatment of a particular disease or of a particular group of patients.

In addition to the above, “Outstanding” achievement in service/patient care also requires that the candidate will have achieved at least two of the following:

- refereed publications on administrative or patient care issues;
- presentations at workshops or demonstrations on diagnosis or treatment at a national meeting;
- appointment to a national task force or committee addressing administrative, organizational, service delivery, or patient care issues;
- service to a national professional organization in the candidate’s discipline (or medical education organization) as an officer or member of the board of directors (or equivalent)
- serving as a principal investigator for a training, clinical program, or public service grant awarded to the department;
- receipt of a grant or award for research on patient treatment or participation in a nationally prominent, multi-center collaborative treatment study in the role of campus principle investigator (or equivalent)
- Departmental receipt of a national recognition award for excellence of

a clinical program in which the candidate has provided significant leadership.

- b. Excellent:** Candidate will demonstrate experience at the department level (or above) in a significant administrative role; or the candidate will have demonstrated an “excellent” patient care record reflecting an unusually high level of either patient care or satisfaction, supported by a letter from the departmental chair or vice chair over clinical services that demonstrates a very high level of performance or development of a regional reputation that draws a significant number of patients from the neighboring region outside of the normal catchment area of the health care system. In addition, the candidate’s administrative leadership will have received regional, state, or national recognition by peers, or the candidate will have achieved regional, state, national or international prominence in some aspect of patient care.

The candidate will have demonstrated consistent citizenship to the School of Medicine through effective participation leadership and service on committees either within the School of Medicine or at the University level.

Faculty can satisfy the basic service/patient care requirements for excellent performance by having served effectively as chief of a clinical program (e.g., ward, outpatient clinic, or consultation service); as director of a training program (or the equivalent), Division Chief, Vice Chair, Chair of a department, Assistant or Associate Dean for a period of up to three years, or will demonstrate a leadership role in improving patient outcomes or quality measures.

Documentation of an “excellent” *patient care record* requires that the candidate will have a regional or emerging state, national or international reputation for expertise and innovation in the diagnosis and/or treatment of a particular disease or of a particular group of patients.

In addition to the above, “Outstanding” achievement in service/patient care also requires that the candidate will have achieved at least one of the following:

- refereed publications on administrative or patient care issues;
- presentations at workshops or demonstrations on diagnosis or treatment at a national meeting;
- appointment to a national task force or committee addressing administrative, organizational, service delivery, or patient care issues;
- service to a national professional organization in the candidate’s discipline (or medical education organization) as an officer or member of the board of directors (or equivalent)
- serving as a principal investigator for a training, clinical program, or public service grant awarded to the department;

- receipt of a grant or award for research on patient treatment or participation in a nationally prominent, multi-center collaborative treatment study in the role of campus principle investigator (or equivalent)
  - Departmental receipt of a national recognition award for excellence of a clinical program in which the candidate has provided significant leadership.
- c. **Good:** Candidate will demonstrate a high level of effectiveness at the department level (or above) in carrying out assigned committee or administrative responsibilities; or the candidate will have demonstrated a “good” patient care record. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate engagement with one or more local, regional, state or national professional organizations. The candidate will have demonstrated citizenship to the School of Medicine through effective participation and service on committees either within the School of Medicine or at the University level.

Documentation of a “good” *patient care record* requires that the candidate will demonstrate having a reputation for a consistently high level of effectiveness in his/her assigned responsibilities in patient care.

- d. **Fair:** Candidate will demonstrate a high level of effectiveness at the department level (or above) in carrying out assigned committee or administrative responsibilities; or the candidate will demonstrate a “fair” patient care record. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate engagement with one or more local, regional, state or national professional organizations. The candidate will have demonstrated citizenship to the School of Medicine through effective participation and service on committees either within the School of Medicine or at the University level.

Documentation of a “fair” *patient care record* requires that the candidate will demonstrate uniformly effective participation in assigned patient care activities. Documentation will include a favorable letter from the principal clinical program supervisor and/or the individual(s) to whom the candidate is accountable for committee work and public service assignments.

#### **IV. Appendix A: Additional Suggested Sources for Documentation of Performance**

[NOTE: This is not an exhaustive list of achievements that may be considered. Candidates may submit any evidence they believe satisfies the requirements of the Unit criteria. The order of this list is not intended to convey relative priorities, but is intended as an aid to organizing materials.]

##### **1. Teaching**

Contribution to:

A. Curriculum development

- Undergraduate medical education: give course number and type of activity
- Graduate medical education: describe curriculum, type of student, goals of program
- Postgraduate education: describe curriculum, type of student, goals of program
- Continuing medical education: describe curriculum, type of participants, goals of program
- Undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, and continuing medical education
- Classroom lecture: give course number, number of contract hours, number of students
- Case conference: give frequency, number and type of participants, topic area
- Clinical teaching and supervision: give frequency, number of students, type of activity
- Course coordination: give course number, number of contact hours, number of students
- Participation in training and educational curricula of affiliated hospitals of the School of Medicine and other schools and departments of the University of South Carolina
- Programs of affiliated and cooperative hospitals
- Other schools and departments of the University of South Carolina

B. Evidence of teaching quality and quantity of teaching load

- Peer evaluations
- Student evaluations
- Student performance on objective tests (e.g., National Board Exams)
- Evaluation by department chair
- Evaluation by faculty of higher rank
- Institutional metrics of performance in teaching and assessment
- Teaching portfolio

C. Development of teaching methods or aids

- Computer simulation



- Audio-visual presentations
- New media applications, presentations or tools
- Medical illustrations
- Handouts
- Models (anatomical, biochemical, etc.)
- Other (weekend symposium, etc.)

## **2. Scholarship/Basic and Applied Research**

- A. Publications (in assessing the level of achievement attained, reviewers should take into account the reputation and impact of journals, whether the work is refereed or not, and whether or not the work represents work that was invited based on the reputation of the faculty member)
- Refereed journal articles
  - Books
  - Book chapters
  - Clinical and case reports
  - Invited reviews
  - Non-refereed journal articles
- B. Presentations
- Invited talks at scientific and professional meetings
  - Non-invited talks
  - Seminars given
  - Sessions chaired at national or international meetings
  - Poster presentations
- C. Grants
- Applications submitted, approved, and/or funded, and grant renewals
- D. Development and supervision of student research projects
- Medical student research projects
  - Resident research projects
  - Membership on dissertation committees, oral examination committees (Masters or PhD)
- E. Attendance at and participation in professional and scientific meetings

- F. Evidence of the “scholarship of clinical practice” using objective criteria from published literature or Unit criteria from peer-aspirant institutions
- G. Peer-reviewed curricular and teaching materials that has been formally disseminated to professional colleagues.

### **3. Service/Patient Care**

#### Service

- A. To students:
  - Faculty advisor
  - Student counseling
  - Advisor to student organizations
  - Membership on student-faculty committees
- B. To the department:
  - Course coordination
  - Committees and subcommittees (e.g., honors, practice plan, curriculum development, etc.)
  - Administrative responsibilities
- C. To the school:
  - Regular committees and subcommittees (e.g., admissions, library, curriculum, etc.)
  - Ad hoc committees (e.g., promotion and tenure criteria development, etc.)
  - Administrative responsibilities
  - Mentoring relationships
- D. To affiliated hospitals and institutions:
  - Committees and subcommittees (e.g., quality assurance, medical staff, etc.)
  - Administrative responsibilities
- E. To the University of South Carolina and other collaborating universities and colleges:
  - Committees and subcommittees

- Faculty Senate
- Faculty committees
- Provost committees
- Task forces
- Administrative responsibilities

F. To the profession:

- Presentations at professional meetings
- Development of symposia, professional meetings, etc.
- Chair at professional meetings
- Professional organization/society officer
- Service on ethics boards, boards of examiners
- Editorial board membership
- Professional organization/society memberships and activities
- Research and grant review panels
- Membership on accreditation committees
- Development of grants

G. To the community:

1) Professional services

- Program development (e.g., programs for specific reference groups, such as the handicapped, etc.), patient education
- Support and assistance to existent community groups (e.g., burn victims, the blind, epileptics, etc.)
- Advisor to federal, state, and local decision-making groups (e.g., regarding health care to the indigent, crisis intervention, disaster preparedness, utilization of medical care, etc.)
- Consultations to hospitals, nursing homes, etc.
- Other: Civic activities
  - Presentation to schools, civic groups and agencies
  - Membership on governing boards of voluntary agencies, schools, churches
  - Talks and participation in activities to schools, clubs

2) Patient Care

- Participation in clinical services of the School of Medicine or affiliated institutions

- Publications in refereed journals on patient care
- Presentations at professional meetings on patient care
- Membership on regional or national task force or committee on patient care
- Grant for research on patient care
- Participation in multi-center collaborative treatment study
- Award for excellence in clinical services
- Reputation among peers as an excellent clinician

**4. Special Honors**