



Oregon State  
University

## Oregon State University Faculty Senate

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### Proposal to Revise Standing Rules of the Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee

Executive Committee: April 2 and April 9, 2026

Faculty Senate: April 16, 2026

## Background and Rationale

The current standing rules for the Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee limit membership exclusively to tenured faculty. However, in addition to tenure-track faculty, there are now other categories of academic faculty eligible for promotion. A significant portion of OSU's faculty, including Professors of Practice, Professors of Teaching, and Faculty Research Assistants, are in promotion-eligible ranks that differ from traditional promotion and tenure processes for tenure-track faculty members. To ensure that the committee's guidance reflects the perspectives of both tenure-track and non-tenure-track academic faculty members, its composition should include representation from non-tenure-track faculty. Expanding membership to include non-tenure-track faculty will strengthen the committee's ability to provide robust guidance and insight into promotion processes across all academic appointment types. At this time, the committee plans for a majority of its members to be tenured, to ensure there are enough eligible members available to serve on negative or split-recommendation cases.

## Key Changes

- Increase committee size from six to eight
- Add representation from non-tenure-track faculty

## Proposed Standing Rules – Promotion & Tenure Committee

The Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee reviews University Promotion and Tenure Guidelines and observes and advises on matters pertaining to the promotion and tenure process.

In promotion and tenure cases where there is a negative or split recommendation at either the unit or college level, the University Promotion and Tenure Committee invites the relevant unit supervisor and college dean for discussion. Representatives from the Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee will have access to the dossiers and participate in these discussions, although they are not voting members of the University Promotion and Tenure Committee. The Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee provides input on the promotion and tenure decision process through its annual report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and to the Provost's Office. The annual report also includes a summary of the previous year's promotion and tenure actions provided by the Office of the Provost.

The Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee shall consist of ~~six~~ eight academic faculty members who have been granted tenure at OSU and who reflect the diversity of the University academic faculty and have been promoted at least once. Five committee members must be tenured and three must be from non-tenure-track ranks. The three non-tenured members must be in different faculty lines, and the

| committee must be chaired by a full professor. Whenever a committee member is under consideration for promotion, he or she will be ineligible to serve on the Committee during the year in which the review is scheduled.

The Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee provides leadership for campus-wide educational programs related to the promotion and tenure process and facilitates on-going dialogue about these matters. Members of the Committee are available to respond to procedural and interpretative questions from faculty, department heads/chairs, deans, and department and college committees.