

Department of History
Texas A & M University

STATEMENT ON TENURE AND PROMOTION CRITERIA

Approved by Departmental Vote on
April 29, 1994

To be considered for promotion and tenure in the Department of History faculty members must demonstrate meritorious performance in three areas: (1) teaching; (2) publications; and (3) service. Candidates for promotion to the rank of professor should demonstrate outstanding professional accomplishments beyond the achievements presented for promotion to associate professor. All promotions require very high performance in at least two areas, one of which must be research. Personnel committees will appraise quality of publications, potential for continued professional growth, and contributions in teaching and service.

Teaching

Evidence of meritorious teaching may include course syllabi, written statements from graduate or undergraduate students, written evidence of curriculum contributions through the creation of new courses or program revisions, and evidence of innovative teaching methods. Tangible measures of merit in teaching are receipt of College or University teaching awards, consistently high scores on student evaluations, and positive peer review based on observation and student testimony. The candidate should assume the responsibility for demonstrating merit in teaching.

Research and Publication

A singly authored monograph or its equivalent is the requisite for consideration for tenure and promotion to associate professor. Scholarship submitted for consideration must demonstrate significant intellectual growth beyond the dissertation and appear in a format that permits review by historians outside the department. Normally faculty members will present a singly-authored

published book when under consideration for tenure, while candidates for promotion to professor will present an additional published book or its equivalent for consideration. Research and publications presented for promotion to the rank of professor should reflect national and/or international recognition.

Edited books, textbooks, co-authored works, book chapters, translations, bibliographies, and articles published in refereed journals are favorably considered in annual merit evaluations and they are important in demonstrating an ongoing research agenda. Nonetheless, candidates for promotion to the rank of associate professor or professor who present a body of publications in lieu of a scholarly monograph must demonstrate that it is equivalent to a singly authored book.

The publication of a scholarly monograph or its equivalent does not guarantee tenure or promotion. The attention paid to an individual's work by others in the field, including evidence of the quality of reviews and the frequency of references to one's work in the literature of the candidate's field, will be an especially important area of assessment.

Service

Service is most commonly rendered to the University by serving on committees, participating in University governance, or assisting student organizations. Service may be at the departmental, college, or university level, but membership on numerous committees does not necessarily constitute meritorious service. Chairing a committee suggests greater service than membership *per se*. Service to the profession may include participation in conference planning and operation, participation in conference sessions, and membership on committees of professional organizations. Community service takes many forms, but relative to promotion and the granting of tenure, it should have a scholarly or educational component. Aspirants to the rank of professor should demonstrate significant service beyond the departmental level.

For further information on requirements for promotion and tenure at Texas A & M University, consult the Procedures for Review, Tenure and Promotion of the College of Liberal Arts and of the University.