

Departments

The formal position with its budgetary commitment for a university faculty member is usually assigned to a department in one of the schools or colleges. Academic departments are characterized by faculty of defined membership. That department and school or college are directly involved in the initial recruitment process and the recommendations of salary, reappointment, and promotion for the faculty member. Appointments can be split between colleges and between departments. Term appointments are also allowed in centers. It is expected that in most circumstances a professor appointed in a center also will hold an appointment in an academic department. The department chairperson (or the dean in the smaller units) is responsible, in mutual agreement with the faculty member, for performance reviews and for detailed coordination of specific teaching responsibilities, advising duties, service obligations, and scholarship expectations.

Department Voting and Nonvoting Membership: Voting membership in a department faculty is not defined in university legislation. Some departments have procedural rules that specify who may vote on various types of questions. In professorial promotion recommendations, a vote is required to be taken of all the department faculty members at or above the level at which the promotion is being considered.

University Bylaws state that clinical professors of all ranks, lecturers and senior lecturers shall participate fully in those decisions that are directly related to their roles within the department, and the department chair shall have the responsibility of identifying those issues. Within the department, those appointed to clinical professorial titles shall participate fully in hiring decisions of others of their rank or in lower clinical professor ranks; senior lecturers shall participate fully in hiring decisions of other senior lecturers and lecturers, and lecturers shall participate fully in the hiring decisions of other lecturers. In units where the number of clinical professorial faculty, lecturers and senior lecturers is comparable to the number of professorial faculty, the provost may determine the appropriate level of participation by clinical professorial faculty, lecturers and senior lecturers in curricular decisions.

Individuals should consult their department as to procedural rules on voting.