

1 **ARTICLE 15. ACADEMIC CLASSIFICATION AND RANK**

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3 **Section 1.** The University shall assign each bargaining unit faculty member the
4 classification, category, and rank that most closely reflect the duties described in his or her
5 contract and job description.

6
7 **Section 2. Classification**

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9 The following are the classifications that apply to faculty bargaining unit positions. A
10 classification identifies the type of position.

- 11
- 12 (a) **TENURE-TRACK AND TENURED:** A paid position wherein an individual is
13 designated by the University in writing as eligible for tenure or has been granted
14 tenure in writing by the Provost.
 - 15
 - 16 (b) **ACTING:** A tenure-track paid position for individuals intended by the University to
17 become tenure-track assistant professors but who have yet to complete the terminal
18 degree.
 - 19
 - 20 (c) **CAREER:** A non-tenure track paid position that is ongoing.
 - 21
 - 22 (d) **VISITING:** A non-tenure track paid temporary appointment of limited duration (up
23 to two years) for (1) an individual who holds a like, similar, or relevant appointment
24 at another institution or (2) pursuant to norms of the specific discipline, an
25 individual who has recently obtained a terminal degree and is seeking further
26 professional experience prior to seeking a professorship.
 - 27
 - 28 (e) **PRO TEMPORE:** A non-tenure track paid appointment that is intermittent or of
29 limited duration except as provided in Article 16, Section 13.
 - 30
 - 31 (f) **POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR:** A non-tenure track paid, mentored research,
32 instructional, librarian, or combined position that is of limited duration for
33 individuals who have earned a doctoral degree.
 - 34
 - 35 (g) **RETIRED:** A non-tenure track paid appointment post-retirement. A bargaining unit
36 faculty member is considered to be retired if he or she resigns or is terminated
37 without cause from employment with the university or enters into a tenure reduction
38 or relinquishment agreement and is:
39
 - 40 i. eligible for unreduced or reduced benefits under the Public Employees
41 Retirement System (for participants in PERS) or the Oregon Public Service
42 Retirement Program (for participants in OPSRP);
 - 43
 - 44 ii. eligible under Internal Revenue Service rules to withdraw funds from an
45 account established under Optional Retirement Plan and meets the
46 requirements for unreduced or reduced benefits under, depending on date of
47 hire, PERS Tier 1 or 2 or the OPSRP. This classification includes the post-
48 retired or emeritus faculty described in Article 1, Recognition.

1 **Section 3. Category**

2
3 The following are the categories that apply to bargaining unit positions. A category
4 describes a rank or group of ranks.

5
6 (a) **PROFESSOR:** This category can only be used in the Tenure Track or Tenured,
7 Acting, Visiting, or Retired classifications. This category requires paid appointment
8 with duties in all three areas of independent research, scholarship, and/or creative
9 inquiry; instruction; and service.

10
11 (b) **CLINICAL PROFESSOR:** This category can only be used in the Visiting, Career,
12 Pro Tem or Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure track paid
13 appointment for individuals with primary duties in the area of clinical instruction or
14 research.

15
16 (c) **PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE:** This category can only be used in the Visiting,
17 Career, Pro Tem, or Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure
18 track paid appointment with primary duties in the area of research or instruction.
19 This category is to be held by eminently qualified professionals who have had a
20 major impact on fields and disciplines important to University of Oregon programs.
21 A Professor of Practice will:

- 22
- 23 • have a substantial basis of experience equal to a tenured professor (normally
- 24 a minimum of 12 years) and a national/international reputation for
- 25 excellence reflected in a record of significant accomplishments;
- 26
- 27 • have a profile of accumulated professional accomplishments fully congruent
- 28 with the rank of professor;
- 29
- 30 • have a rich and extensive background in a field and discipline relevant to the
- 31 school, college, or unit of appointment at the University of Oregon; and
- 32
- 33 • serve as a liaison between the professional field and the University of
- 34 Oregon.

35
36 (d) **INSTRUCTOR:** This category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Pro Tem or
37 Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment
38 with primary duties in the area of undergraduate instruction. Instructor duties may
39 include advising and mentoring responsibilities as well as possibility of
40 involvement in design and development of courses and the curriculum.

41
42 (e) **LECTURER:** This category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Pro Tem or
43 Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment
44 with primary duties in the area of graduate instruction and education. The duties
45 may also include some undergraduate instruction and mentoring and advising
46 responsibilities, as well as the possibility of involvement in design and development
47 of courses and the curriculum. Appointments in the Lecturer category require the
48 terminal degree (or its professional equivalent) relevant to the appointment, but

1 holding a terminal degree does not by itself entitle a bargaining unit faculty member
2 to appointment in the Lecturer category.

3
4 (f) LIBRARIAN: This category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Pro Tem, or
5 Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment
6 with primary duties in the university libraries. Appointments in the Librarian
7 category require a terminal professional degree, but holding a terminal degree does
8 not by itself entitle a bargaining unit faculty member to appointment in the
9 Librarian category.

10
11 (g) RESEARCH ASSISTANT: This category can only be used in the Visiting, Career,
12 Pro Tem or Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure track paid
13 appointment for individuals who have typically earned a bachelor's or master's
14 degree. Primary duties are in the area of research. Research Assistants typically
15 work as members of a research team under the direct supervision of other faculty
16 researchers.

17
18 (h) RESEARCH ASSOCIATE: This category can only be used in the Visiting, Career,
19 Pro Tem or Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure track paid
20 appointment for individuals who have the terminal degree relevant to the
21 appointment. Primary duties are in the area of research, which are typically
22 undertaken as part of a research team or lab. Appointments in the Research
23 Associate category require a terminal degree (or its professional equivalent) in a
24 relevant field, but holding a terminal degree does not by itself entitle a bargaining
25 unit faculty member to appointment in the Research Associate category.

26
27 (i) RESEARCH PROFESSOR: This category can only be used in the Visiting, Career,
28 Pro Tem or Retired classifications. This category requires a non-tenure track paid
29 appointment with duties primarily in the area of independent research, scholarship
30 and/or creative inquiry. Appointments in the Research Professor category require a
31 terminal degree relevant to the appointment. Primary duties are independent lines of
32 inquiry, which can be related to the work of colleagues but not dependent on it. A
33 Research Professor will have qualifications and research expectations equal to or
34 exceeding those for a tenure-track/tenured professor at the same rank in related
35 fields.

36
37 (j) POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR: This category can only be used in the Postdoctoral
38 Scholar classification. This category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment
39 for a temporary and defined period of formally mentored research, instruction,
40 librarianship, or scholarly training, for the purpose of allowing the Postdoctoral
41 Scholar to acquire the professional skills needed to pursue a career path of his or her
42 choosing. The appointment requires a doctoral degree. At the time of appointment,
43 hiring documentation should include an articulated program of mentoring with an
44 identified mentor.

45 46 **Section 4. Rank**

47
48 The following are the ranks within categories that apply to bargaining unit faculty

1 members. Ranks define the level of promotion within a category.

- 2
- 3 (a) PROFESSOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant professor,
4 associate professor, and professor.
- 5
- 6 (b) CLINICAL PROFESSOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant
7 clinical professor, associate clinical professor, and clinical professor.
- 8
- 9 (c) PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE: The only rank in this category is professor of
10 practice.
- 11
- 12 (d) INSTRUCTOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are instructor, senior
13 instructor I, senior instructor II.
- 14
- 15 (e) LECTURER: Ranks in this category in ascending order are lecturer, senior lecturer
16 I, senior lecturer II.
- 17
- 18 (f) LIBRARIAN: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant librarian,
19 associate librarian, and senior librarian.
- 20
- 21 (g) RESEARCH ASSISTANT: Ranks in this category in ascending order are research
22 assistant, senior research assistant I, senior research assistant II.
- 23
- 24 (h) RESEARCH ASSOCIATE: Ranks in this category in ascending order are research
25 associate, senior research associate I, senior research associate II.
- 26
- 27 (i) RESEARCH PROFESSOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant
28 research professor, associate research professor, and research professor.
- 29
- 30 (j) POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR: The only rank in this category is Postdoctoral
31 Scholar.
- 32

33 **Section 5.** At the time of hire, the University shall assign each bargaining unit faculty
34 member a rank within the classification and category described in the job posting.

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36 Nothing shall preclude a bargaining unit faculty member from being assigned and
37 performing other duties not described in his or her specific classification, category, or rank
38 as long as those duties are consistent with his or her job description.

39
40 **Section 6.** If the University non-renews a position in the Career classification for
41 economic or programmatic reasons, then the position cannot be refilled in the Visiting, Pro
42 Tem or Postdoctoral Scholar classification within the subsequent two years unless
43 approved by the Provost or his or her designee.

44
45 **Section 7.** The duration of a position in the Pro Tem classification shall be no more than
46 three years. If the University decides to continue a position in the Pro Tem classification
47 for longer than three years, the position must be converted to a Career position. In rare
48 cases, a department or unit may petition the Provost to continue a position in the Pro Tem

1 classification for longer than three years for legitimate pedagogical or legitimate
2 programmatic reasons. Permission to continue a position in the Pro Tem classification for
3 longer than three years must be granted by the Provost or designee in writing.

4
5 **Section 8.** The duration of a position in the Postdoctoral Scholar classification shall be
6 no more than three years. Postdoctoral mentors, however, may petition the Provost or
7 designee for an extension of no more than two years. Permission to continue a position
8 in the Postdoctoral Scholar classification for longer than three years must be granted by
9 the Provost or designee in writing.

10
11 **Section 9.** The University shall provide the Union with an annual report of all
12 permissions to extend a position in the Pro Tem or Postdoctoral Scholar classification
13 beyond three years made by the Provost or designee during the preceding academic year
14 no later than the following September 1.

15
16 **Section 10.** Bargaining unit faculty members in the Career classification shall have the
17 right to petition the Provost or designee to have their position recategorized if they believe
18 that their position was categorized incorrectly at the time of first hire or their position has
19 evolved to more closely resemble a different category. If a petition for recategorization is
20 denied, a bargaining unit faculty member may petition again after completion of at least
21 one additional year of service in the position.

22
23 When a position is recategorized through this process, the bargaining unit faculty member
24 will be assigned a new rank equivalent to their rank in the former category.

25
26 **Section 11.** Bargaining unit faculty members in the Pro Tem or Visiting or Postdoctoral
27 Scholar classification who believe that their positions should be positions in the Career
28 classification may petition for reclassification after the completion of two years of
29 appointment. Because the defining characteristic of the Pro Tem and Visiting and
30 Postdoctoral Scholar classifications is their limited duration, the decision of the Provost or
31 designee should be guided by the current and anticipated duration of the position.

32
33 **Section 12.** When a position is reclassified from a non-tenure track classification into the
34 Tenure Track and Tenured classification, a new national search is always required to fill
35 the position. For other classifications, a national search is permissible, but not required
36 when the original search was national in scope and when the incumbent has had successful
37 reviews.

38
39 **Section 13.** A reclassification or recategorization shall take effect at the beginning of the
40 next fiscal year, contract renewal, or academic year, or other date as approved by the
41 Provost or designee.

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43 **Section 14.** A change in rank within a category requires a promotion.
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