
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

School of Medicine & Health Sciences Office of Faculty Affairs

Recommendations for Tenure and/or Promotion

Tenure

Final decisions regarding tenure must be announced to the faculty by June 30; therefore, it is crucial to adhere strictly to all deadlines in this process. The SMHS Office of Faculty Affairs can confirm which faculty members are due for tenure review.

Please recall that, except in the most extraordinary and well-documented circumstances, a recommendation for the award of tenure before the conclusion of the indicated probationary period—a date specified in each candidate's initial letter of appointment—will not be accepted.

Similarly, a recommendation for promotion to associate professor before the award of tenure will not be approved except under very rare circumstances.

Chairs contemplating making a recommendation for early tenure or appointment to associate professor before tenure should consult with their Dean before initiating any action. The Dean is then required to consult with the Provost.

Please see Appendix 1 for the Provost's guidelines.

Promotion of Regular Faculty

The review and assessment of candidates for promotion should be undertaken with the same rigorous documentation, following the same general procedures as the review of tenure cases. Letters of transmittal from the Chair and Dean should address, with equal specificity, the criteria for promotion established by the school and department.

Because no set term exists for decisions concerning promotion, we have some leeway to allow for the construction of the strongest possible dossier. Chairs who are in any doubt concerning the readiness of a particular case should consider a confidential consultation with their Dean to seek a tentative assessment of the probable response of the School's tenure and promotion committee to the candidate's record as represented in the curriculum vitae. The Schools and Deans will normally consider tenure cases first and promotion cases second. To be assured of action during this academic year, the deadline for completed dossiers and recommendations for promotion to be received by Faculty Affairs is no later than the published deadline.

Please see Appendix 1 for the Provost's guidelines.

Application Process

All required documents, including the Dossier Checklist (see Appendix 8), should be uploaded to the Faculty Affairs Web Portal.

Things to Remember

- The application will not be sent to the School's Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee until it is complete (all sections submitted and proper documentation on outside letters of evaluation is provided—see below). Because of the strict deadline established by the Provost's Office for receipt of applications from the Dean, the complete application must be submitted by the stated deadline at the latest.
- Please be sure that the *Curriculum Vitae* follows the SMHS format (see Appendix 2).
- The Departmental Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee must review the application before it is submitted to the Office of Faculty Affairs. The Provost's Office requires that a vote of the Committee be taken and that the vote be submitted as part of the Chair's recommendation (number for, number against, number of abstentions, number of members absent or not voting). *Please remember that only tenured faculty may vote on tenure cases, and committee members must hold the same rank or higher when voting on an application for promotion.*
- The Chair's letter must follow the format in Appendix 7. The letter must include a vote of the departmental APT Committee (as described above) plus three clearly labeled sections covering Evaluation of Teaching, Evaluation of Research/Scholarship, and Evaluation of Service. The appended vote sheet can be used and submitted (Appendix 9) as part of the Chair's recommendation letter.
- Obtaining outside letters of evaluation is challenging, and the process should begin as soon as possible. Be sure to follow the guidelines from the Provost's Office. Sample letters and forms are provided in the Appendices.
- Because the Provost does not require them, submission of letters of recommendation is *optional*. If they are included, please insert them at the end of the application in the Service section with a Title Page marked "Optional Letters of Recommendation."

APPENDIX 1

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Office of the Provost

Guidelines for the Tenure and Promotion Dossiers

The criteria of sustained excellence required for promotion and tenure, as stated in the Faculty Code language (most recently approved by the Board of Trustees in June 2019), is the standard for promotion and tenure. Specifically, it states that promotion and tenure decisions should be for those who “achieved excellence in their disciplines through their contributions to research, scholarship, or creative work in the arts (hereinafter scholarship), teaching, and engagement in service, and who demonstrate the potential to continue to do so, so that the university may advance its mission of scholarship, higher education, and service to the community.” It is incumbent that schools and Departments putting candidates up for tenure or promotion demonstrate that the candidate has met this standard. The preparation of the file, the solicitation of letters, and the decision of the faculty (either a department’s decision or the school as a whole in non-departmentalized units) should be made with the goal of assessing the candidate in terms of this excellence standard.

The tenure and/or promotion process for faculty leads to major career milestones, and these decisions, albeit difficult ones, are among the most important decisions that we, as faculty and administrators, make. For this reason, it is important that the dossiers of the candidates be compiled carefully to facilitate what is a necessarily rigorous process. In particular, these dossiers must thoroughly and accurately convey evidence of accomplishments in teaching, research, and service as appropriate for the candidate’s discipline.

Thus, the dossier should be such that it allows all those involved in the review process to assess whether the candidate has met a standard of excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service. Further, the dossier must demonstrate that the candidate has the strong potential to continue to be productive in those three areas. This is especially important once the dossier leaves the originating department and moves through the school’s promotion and tenure committee to the dean and finally to the provost. The key is to put forth dossiers that are useful within and external to the originating department, especially in the sense that they are meaningful to reviewers outside the candidate’s discipline.

Please read this guideline document carefully and share it with your colleagues. You may find some aspects of your process that can be enhanced, or you may have a component in your process that you wish to recommend to others. As mentioned, we are striving to have dossiers that have complete information and a process that is comparable across schools. As in the past, these guidelines are to serve as the minimum standard for a dossier that will withstand the rigors of review at all levels.

Different departments may choose to provide additional information in their respective dossiers, and this is fine as long as this is done similarly for candidates in the same field. Finally, in instances in which there is not consensus regarding the merits of the case, additional external assessments of the scholarly record are likely to be solicited.

Following review by the school's promotion and tenure committee and the dean, the dean should prepare a letter of recommendation that transmits the dossier—including all relevant documents mentioned below—to the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs or his designee. Please hold any supplementary materials in the dean's office. Consistent with University process efficiency and sustainability efforts, the Provost's Office accepts only paperless submissions.

The importance of the tenure and/or promotion process at GW cannot be overemphasized. Your close attention to these guidelines and any supplementary guidelines issued by your dean is greatly appreciated.

Contents of Dossiers

In order to provide dossiers that are easy to review and contain the key data and evaluations to underpin the recommendations, a dossier should contain five sections in the following order shown below.

(NOTE FROM THE SMHS OFFICE OF FACULTY AFFAIRS: We require that you insert a Title Page for each of the five sections in front of the required items. This significantly improves the ability of readers to find the appropriate sections during review.)

Detailed comments on each of the required elements follow the list of items.

1) Transmitting Letters

- From the Dean
- From the Chair of the School's promotion and tenure committee (the Office of Faculty Affairs will add this before submission to the Provost)
- From the Department Chair
- From the Department Chair of the departments in which the faculty member holds secondary or tertiary appointments

2) *Curriculum Vitae* of Candidate (MUST be in GW SHMS Format. See Appendix 2.)

3) Teaching

- Teaching Statement and Reflection by Candidate (3 pages maximum; REQUIRED)
- Courses Taught
 - Courses taught during the period of evaluation
 - Illustrative example
- Teaching Effectiveness
 - Internal peer reviews
 - Student feedback and comments provided by the department.
 - Teaching awards or other special recognition related to teaching.
- Development, Continual Improvement, and Pedagogical Innovations
- Impact on Department, GW, and the Discipline

4) Research/Scholarship

- Research Statement and Reflection by Candidate (3 pages maximum)
- Outside evaluations
 - Narrative from Chair describing the selection process for external evaluators, particularly which evaluators.
 - Completed External Reviewer Report (Appendix 10)

- Copy of an actual solicitation letter sent to external evaluators
- External evaluation letters

5) External/University/Departmental Service

- Service statement and reflection by candidate (3 pages maximum)
- Special recognition for service
- Evaluation summary. The SMHS had traditionally fulfilled this requirement by including Letters of Recommendation in the dossier. The requirements:
 - For *Associate Professor*, a minimum of two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from outside the institution (Referees must hold the rank of Associate Professor or higher).
 - For *Professor*, a minimum of three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from outside the institution. (Referees must hold the rank of Professor or equivalent.)

6) Publications

Three recent publications. Please provide the PDFs of the papers available from the publisher of the journal.

- peer-reviewed for tenure / tenure-track dossiers
- peer-reviewed preferred for non-tenure track dossiers

Dual School Appointments

Recommendations for the tenure (and/or promotion) of faculty holding primary appointments in more than one School require the approval of both Deans. Thus, the Chair needs to ensure that recommendations meet the criteria and the procedures of both Schools. Normally, copies of the dossier and letter of transmittal should be sent simultaneously to both Deans.

Non-Departmental Solicitation of Additional Information

According to the revised Faculty Code, "The School-Wide Personnel Committee may request and gather additional information, documentation, or clarification regarding recommendations they are considering." While not a code requirement, before collecting additional information, the Chair of the School Wide Personnel Committee may consult with the department to better understand the field. And, any additional information solicited by the School-Wide Personnel Committee should be identified in the transmittal letter and added to the file. In the event of a non-concurrence, the chair of the originating department should review the material so that they can reflect upon it in his or her consultations with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

Detailed Description of Dossier Sections

In the following sections, guidance is provided on minimal expectations in the structure of portfolios, layout of curriculum vitae, letters from the department chair, chair of the school's promotion and tenure committee, and the dean, and the layout of the dossier itself.

NOTE: The SMHS [Faculty Guide for Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure](#)* provides guidance and suggestions to assist faculty in the preparation of their dossier.

*<https://smhs.gwu.edu/sites/default/files/apt-handbook-feb-2021.pdf>

1. Transmitting Letters

The transmittal letters from the Department, the School-Wide APT Committee, and the Dean set the tone of the dossier. It is expected that each of these letters will be analytical and assess the candidate in terms of the School and University criteria for tenure or promotion. Letters from all three are required in all cases, regardless of whether there is a concurrence or non-concurrence with the recommendation of the faculty and regardless of whether tenure or promotion is being recommended. Additionally, if the Department or School is aware of any information that is not self-evident in the dossier and may impact the assessment of the record, this should be disclosed in the transmittal letters. Because transmittal letters (along with the reports produced by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee in instances where there is a non-concurrence) may contain a discussion of the divisions that exist within the faculty and cite the evaluations of the external reviewers, these letters are confidential and should not be shared with the candidate.

The school-wide Promotion and Tenure committee's or dean's letter should convey clearly their concurrence or non-concurrence with the faculty's recommendation and the basis for this conclusion. Moreover, the school's P&T committee and dean have a broader perspective across the school to provide background on the case's strength or other pertinent information relevant to the recommendation. Both the Department and School P&T committee letters should include information on the votes that took place related to a particular case (including the number of members absent or abstaining).

Since this whole process begins with the department chair's letter revealing the recommendation of the faculty (in departmentalized schools), this letter is pivotal in the decisions of the school's P&T committee, the Dean, and the Provost to concur or not. In some departments, the personnel committee writes this letter, but in any case, all who vote on the decision to recommend tenure or promotion should review it. For ease of reading, the letter should begin with a statement of the recommendation along with the departmental vote underpinning it. After that, using the materials submitted by the candidate or collected by the department as the basis, a thorough written evaluation

of the candidate's teaching, research/scholarship, and service should follow. These latter three sections of the department chair's letter set the stage and tone for reviewers outside the department. Finally, from the view of the strategic programmatic directions of the department, it is of value to have the chair comment on the candidate's contributions to achieving those aims.

2. Curriculum Vitae

The candidate's *Curriculum Vitae* gives the reviewer a quick snapshot of where the candidate stands. See the template in Appendix 2.

3. Teaching

- **Teaching statement and reflection: Past, Present, and Future.** In no more than three pages, with specific examples from courses they have taught, candidates will describe their approach to teaching, what they have learned from their teaching experiences, how they have sought to improve their teaching, and how they plan to continue developing their teaching program.
- **Courses taught during the period of evaluation.**
 - Course list: List of courses taught, the enrollment, whether graduate or undergraduate, and whether a new preparation or redesign was required.
 - Illustrative example: For at least one course from the list above and using no more than one page per course, the candidate will list the learning objectives/outcomes and the topics, the teaching approach, some of the learning activities, and some example assessments of learning outcomes used.
- **Teaching Effectiveness**
 - Internal peer reviews: Departments are encouraged to provide reviews from more than one peer who observes the candidate's teaching. Peer evaluations are especially valuable when they are done longitudinally over several years before the candidate's year of review.
 - Student feedback, both scores and comments: Taking scores into account can provide validation of the internal feedback and written comments of the students. Broad-based questions, such as "My Overall Assessment of the Instructor," may be useful for identifying those who are particularly strong or weak instructors. However, the interpretation of these scores should be viewed in the context of research showing that evaluations vary predictably with teaching quality, gender and race, the nature and size of the course being taught, and the rigor of the grading. The accomplishment by students of the learning objectives of a course should also be considered in the evaluation of teaching effectiveness.
 - Teaching awards or other special recognition of teaching.
- **Development, Continual Improvement, and Pedagogical Innovations.** Description of efforts taken to develop or apply new techniques in teaching to improve learning.
- **Impact on Department, GW, and the Discipline.** Description of the impact on curriculum development and pedagogy at the university and in the discipline.

4. Research Scholarship

In many respects, this is the part of the dossier that requires the most careful handling owing to its involvement of external evaluators.

- **Research statement and reflection:** In no more than three pages, the candidates will describe their research focus and the contribution their research has made to their discipline or field.
- **External letters:** Independent letters of assessment (and not endorsement for tenure) by highly qualified, external evaluators should form a significant portion of the documentation concerning research and scholarship, and professional service. External letter writers are not expected to assess the teaching strength of the candidate. The department chair's transmittal letter to the external evaluator should be carefully worded to have the best possibility of obtaining a thorough and complete evaluation of the candidate's scholarly work. It should be clear in the letter that all we seek from the evaluator is a thorough evaluation of the scholarly works submitted for review, *not an opinion as to whether the candidate should be tenured and/or promoted, since the latter recommendation requires other evaluative input, in particular, teaching.*

Having said the above, the number and nature of the external evaluators should be discussed. At a minimum, there should be five highly qualified referees. To the extent that there are good reasons why obtaining five letters is not feasible, you can request waivers of this requirement in writing to the provost. Under extraordinary circumstances, such a request will be granted. However, such requests should be made before the review of the file. The selection of external letter writers includes a mix of senior individuals proposed by the faculty candidate and some selected by the tenure committee (or whatever group in your school assembles the tenure case). There should be two lists of evaluators from which to select: one from the candidate and one from the department. Which list any particular letter comes from should be indicated in the tenure case.

In selecting evaluators, five of them **may not include** the candidate's dissertation director, a collaborator on scholarly work with the candidate (for example, co-author), or a colleague from a different institution (current or former) with whom the candidate has worked or continues to work. The key is to have a minimum of five letters from impartial evaluators. Once this requirement is fulfilled, other letters are welcome but should be carefully identified. All letters received become part of the dossier.

Letter writers should be informed that the university's standard for tenure requires the candidate to have: "achieved excellence in their disciplines through their contributions to research, scholarship, or creative work in the arts (hereinafter scholarship), teaching, and engagement in service, and who demonstrate the potential to continue to do so..." And, they should be told that the letters are

normally considered confidential and not shared with the candidate unless required by a legal or administrative process. Since this aspect is such an important part of the promotion and tenure process, deans may wish to supplement it with even more detailed guidance, including school-specific criteria that are consistent with the university standard.

5. External/University/Departmental Service

- **Service statement and reflection:** In no more than three pages the candidates will describe their service focus and the contribution their service has made to the department, school, university, and their field.
- A key component of this section is the department's evaluation summary of what is the record of the candidate. (NOTE: In the SMHS we meet this requirement by requiring a section in the Chair Letter that evaluates the candidate's service).
- The detailed record may be part of the candidate's vitae or submitted as a separate listing. This should include any awards or other recognition received for service.

APPENDIX 2

The George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences

REQUIRED CURRICULUM VITAE FORMAT

1) Personal Data

Name (first, middle, last)
GWID#
Office address
Office telephone
E-mail address
Date and place of birth (optional)
Citizenship (optional)

2) Education (List Institution, Dates and Degrees awarded. Please note and explain any periods during your educational years when your education was interrupted.)

- a) Undergraduate Education
- b) Graduate/Medical Education
- c) Post-Graduate Training (Post-Doctoral Fellowships, Internship, Residency)

3) Employment (List all employment in chronological order, specifying dates of employment. Include all academic appointments--including academic rank--as well as non-academic positions held since completion of undergraduate education. Include military service, if any, as well as description of any sabbatical periods taken during years of employment.)

4) Scholarly Publications (Should be numbered and listed in the appropriate category. For each category, list all authors in order, journal or book reference, and complete pagination).

- a) Papers in Refereed Journals
- b) Papers in Non-Refereed Journals
- c) Chapters in Books
- d) Books Edited or Written
- e) Abstracts
- f) Invited Publications
- g) Letters
- h) Book Reviews
- i) Any Other Publications

5) Presentations (List Titles and Dates of Presentations as well as Complete Authorship in order for each Category)

- a) Regional Presentations
- b) National Presentations
- c) International Presentations

6) Professional Registrations, Licenses, Certifications (Include Dates of Receipt)

7) Grants Awarded or Pending (a table is recommended)

Title of Grant
Funding Agency
Dates of Award
Yearly Direct Costs of Award
Role (PI, Co-PI, etc.)
% Effort

8) Societies and Honors (Include any administrative duties or appointments and include dates)

9) Administrative Duties & University Activities (include voluntary committee service and dates)

a) Departmental
b) SMHS
c) University

10) Educational Achievements (Include Dates of participation for all categories.

a) Courses Taught (Include role [course director, guest lecturer, etc.], numbers of lectures presented)
b) New Courses or Programs Developed
c) Students or post-doctoral fellows for whom you served as primary advisor. Include title of thesis or dissertation (for students), name of student/trainee, and years.
d) Educational Awards

11) Consultant Appointments (List all consultant activity to industry, private or public foundations. Also list all visiting professorships. Specify whether consultant activity was paid or unpaid)

12) Service to Community (List agency, duration of participation, amount of effort and role on project. Specify whether involvement was paid or unpaid, and whether your involvement was at regional, national or international level.)

APPENDIX 3

E-mail request to prospective outside evaluator: Initial Request

Request to provide tenure/non-tenure promotion evaluation for Dr. George Washington

Jeffrey Sich <jsich@gwu.edu> Thu, Dec 5, 2013 at 5:11 PM
Reply-To: jsich@gwu.edu
To: ProfessorZ@someschool.edu

Dear Professor Z:

I am writing to request that you serve as an independent evaluator of Dr. George Washington.

Dr. George Washington is being considered for promotion to the rank of [Associate/Professor] of Pediatrics with [continuous tenure/without tenure/with tenure].

As part of the review process, we are seeking input from individuals like yourself to provide an evaluation of Dr. Washington's research and scholarly activities.

If you are willing to serve as an independent evaluator, I will send you a copy of Dr. Washington's materials for review.

We would appreciate it if you could provide a thorough evaluation of her research and scholarly activities. We would also welcome your evaluative comments on Dr. Washington's professional service, stature, and leadership in the field.

Independent evaluators should not be close collaborators, mentors, or personal friends of the candidate.

Please let me know if you are willing to serve in this capacity. Ideally, we would appreciate receiving your signed and dated evaluation on your letterhead within the next six to eight weeks.

Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

APPENDIX 4

Letter to outside evaluator: Formal Invitation

Dear Dr. {Evaluator_LastName}:

Dr. {Candidate_LastName} is being considered for promotion to the rank of {Rank} with tenure/without tenure at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

An essential contribution to this review process is made by the highly qualified, external evaluators who provide independent letters of assessment of the candidate's research, scholarship, and professional/clinical service.

I am writing with the hope that you will agree to provide such an evaluation to help us better assess the strengths of Dr. {Candidate_LastName}. These letters become part of the dossier that the department and the school's appointments, promotions, and tenure committees review.

Independent, external reviewers must meet the following requirements:

- Must not have served as a mentor to the candidate or a collaborator on scholarly work.
- Must not be a current or former colleague who interacted with, or continues to interact with, the candidate in a significant way.
- Currently holds an academic rank equal to, or higher than, the rank being sought by the candidate.

Sustained excellence is the standard for promotion and tenure at our institution. Specifically, promotion and tenure are reserved for those who "achieved excellence in their disciplines through their contributions to research, scholarship, or creative work in the arts (hereinafter scholarship), teaching, and engagement in service." They should also demonstrate the potential to continue doing so, so that the university can advance its mission of scholarship, higher education, and service to the community.

If you can provide a letter of evaluation, we will ask you to refer to this standard in your written qualitative assessment of the candidate's research, scholarship, or creative work. Please be assured that the letter you provide is considered confidential and will not be shared with the candidate unless required by a legal or administrative process.

If you are willing to write an external evaluation by [DATE], please respond by completing the enclosed reviewer form and returning it to me. I will then provide you with Dr. {Candidate_LastName}'s dossier along with information about our promotion process to assist you in writing your letter.

Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Chair, Department of {DeptName}

APPENDIX 5

Instructions for Completing the Letter of Evaluation for Promotion/Tenure Candidates

We secure external letters to obtain a thorough and complete evaluation of the candidate's scholarly work and its impact by experts in the candidate's field of study. External letters are considered confidential and are not shared with the candidate unless required by a legal or administrative process.

External letter writers are not expected to assess the teaching strength of the candidate. Nor should they offer an opinion as to whether the candidate should be tenured and/or promoted at GW or their own school.

Standards for promotion and tenure. A copy of our School's *Guidelines for Appointment, Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure* is included in this mailing or can be found at <https://smhs.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaskib1151/files/2023-04/final-revised-apt-guidelines-provost-approved-11082022.pdf>.

Scholarship in our School is defined as those activities that systematically advance the teaching, research, and/or practice of medicine, biomedical sciences, and/or health sciences through rigorous inquiry that:

- are significant to the profession or discipline
- lead to new knowledge, new insights, or approaches to existing knowledge, and
- are disseminated for evaluation and critical review by other scholars.

In addition to traditional research, also called the scholarship of discovery, the faculty in the SMHS equally values the scholarship of integration, application, teaching, and learning.

Our School also recognizes the importance of multi-disciplinary and team science in scholarship. When scholarship pursued in this fashion, results in multi-authored publications, the role in the project, rather than the order of authorship, is regarded as most important.

Participation in multi- and interdisciplinary collaborations is recognized not only by publication but also by providing specific expertise to address a research question and by leadership of one or more teams. The role and effort of the candidate, along with the accomplishments and success of the team, should be detailed by the candidate in the CV and in the scholarship narrative statement.

Scholarship is assessed by several measures, including, but not limited to, the number of publications in peer-reviewed quality journals; reviews, books, book chapters, and monographs; the number and prominence of invited seminars and lectures; and service on editorial boards and grant review panels. The overall quality of publications takes precedence over their quantity. The impact of publications on the profession, the number of citations, and awards or special recognition of the work by others are important. The number of grants received may provide peer-reviewed evidence of the candidate's work and creativity.

The quality and quantity of scholarly products are expected to increase with increasing academic rank. Scholarly activities (routine teaching assignments, participation in conferences, using the literature to inform your teaching and practice, etc.) are not the same as scholarship as defined above and are not sufficient to demonstrate excellence in scholarship. As noted above, our School does equally value other types of scholarship (scholarship of integration, application, and teaching and learning) in addition to traditional discovery research.

Service. Service is a part of academic life, and some level of meaningful participation is expected of all faculty at all levels. While excellence in service alone is not sufficient for promotion to any level in the tenure track,

excellence in professional and/or clinical service may be a major criterion for promotion in the non-tenure track. The quality and quantity of service are expected to increase with increasing academic rank. Examples of achievements in service may include:

- Professional Service: Professional service in this context includes leadership and committee membership in national/regional organizations, leading accreditation or certification programs, editorial responsibilities, expert panels, and education leadership at a national or regional level (such as national/regional development of innovative programs or education committee leadership).
- Clinical Service (including recognition by peers and patients, professional contributions to patient care, and professional contributions to enhancing the profession)
- Public Service and Advocacy; and
- Institutional Service provided to the division, department, school, and university.

Establishing the independence of external reviewers. University guidelines state that the external reviewers may not be:

- the candidate's dissertation director;
- a collaborator on scholarly work with the candidate (for example, co-author), or
- a mentor, program director, or colleague from a different institution (current or former) with whom the candidate has interacted in a significant way during their time at the institution or continues to interact with since leaving.

Participation in review panels, study sections, advisory committees, and professional society committees is not disqualifying unless a deeper relationship, such as those listed above, exists.

Our School uses an external evaluator form to establish the independence of reviewers. If you have any questions about your ability to serve as an independent reviewer, please do not hesitate to contact the Chair of the candidate's department.

APPENDIX 6

Form to Send to Outside Evaluators

School of Medicine
& Health Sciences
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

EVALUATOR STATUS REQUEST

Candidate's Name:

Proposed for Promotion to:

Please indicate which of these items describes your relationship to the candidate and your knowledge of his/her work.

Relationship to the candidate and his/her work:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Present or past colleague (at same institution as a student, postdoctoral fellow, or faculty member) | <input type="checkbox"/> | If checked, please explain below. |
| Past mentor | <input type="checkbox"/> | If checked, please explain below. |
| Collaborator (co-investigator on grants and/or co-authored papers) | <input type="checkbox"/> | If checked, please explain below. |
| None of the above | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Explanation of relationships identified above:

Knowledge of the candidate's work based on (check all that apply):

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| His/her publications and CV | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Scientific presentations | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personal knowledge and discussions | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Signature of referee: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX 7

Required Format for Chair Letter in Support of Tenure and/or Promotion

Date

Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure Committee OR Dean
School of Medicine and Health Sciences
The George Washington University

RE: Appointment/Promotion/Tenure of _____ (candidate name) _____ to the Rank of _____ in the Department of _____ (department name) — [tenure or non-tenure track].

Dear APT Committee OR Dean Bass:

It is a pleasure to recommend the appointment/promotion/tenure of _____ (candidate name) to the rank of _____ [tenure or non-tenure track] in the Department of _____. The proposed effective date is July 1, 2026.

After deliberation and evaluation of the accomplishments and contributions of Dr. [candidate name], the Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee of our Department voted x- y-z [For-Against-Abstained] in favor of this promotion. The total number of committee members eligible to vote on this application is ____ .

NOTE: The following three sections may be presented in any order.

Evaluation of Teaching: (heading required)

Evaluation of Research/Scholarship: (heading required)

Evaluation of Service: (heading required)

SUMMATION: Candidate's contributions to the strategic programmatic directions of the department and the candidate's ability to help achieve those aims over the long term.

APPENDIX 8

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

PROMOTION/TENURE DOSSIER CHECK-LIST Academic Year 2026

Dossiers will be submitted through the promotion online system that is accessed through the Faculty Affairs Web [Portal](#).

- CHAIR: Completed copy of this Promotion/Tenure Dossier checklist
- CHAIR: Cover letter from Department Chair outlining the candidate's accomplishments in all areas – teaching, scholarship, and service (departmental APT vote must be included in letter and/or submitted separately using the enclosed vote sheet form or as a separate letter from Departmental APT Committee)
- CHAIR: Cover letter(s) from secondary and tertiary Department Chairs (if applicable)
- Curriculum Vitae* in **required** format (refer to “Required CV Format” on <http://smhs.gwu.edu/faculty/resources-faculty/appointments-promotions-tenure>)

FOLLOWING THE CV, THERE ARE THREE REQUIRED SECTIONS:

- TEACHING** (section title page)
 - Teaching Statement and Reflection by Candidate (3 pages maximum)
 - Courses Taught (Courses taught during period of evaluation; illustrative example)
 - Teaching Effectiveness (Internal peer reviews; Student feedback/comments; Teaching awards/recognition)
 - Development, Continual Improvement, and Pedagogical Innovations
 - Impact on Department, GW, and the Discipline
- RESEARCH/SCHOLARSHIP** (section title page)
 - Research Statement and Reflection by Candidate (3 pages maximum)
 - CHAIR: Narrative from Chair describing the selection process for external evaluators, particularly which evaluators. This should include (in a single document):
 - External Reviewer Form
 - Copy of solicitation package sent to external evaluators (one copy)
 - CHAIR: Minimum of five (5) letters AND CHECKLIST from external, independent evaluators – must not be from close collaborators, mentors, or friends of the applicant.
- EXTERNAL/UNIVERSITY/DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE** (section title page)
 - Service Statement and Reflection by Candidate (3 pages maximum)
 - Special recognition received for service
 - Letters of Support from colleagues and collaborators (OPTIONAL)

PUBLICATIONS (*Original PDFs from journal website. An exception will be made for book chapters, but care should be taken that high-quality, readable copies are submitted.*)

Three recent publications (MAXIMUM): Peer-reviewed required for tenure / tenure-track dossiers; preferred for non-tenure track dossiers.

APPENDIX 11

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXTERNAL LETTER SOLICITATION

External evaluators who accept the invitation to write a letter **MUST** receive the following documents, either as a hyperlink or as an attachment.

1. Formal Letter of invitation (Appendix 4)
2. Instructions for Completing Letter of Evaluation for Promotion/Tenure Candidate (Appendix 5)
3. Evaluator Form (Appendix 6)
4. [SMHS Guidelines for Appointment, Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure](#)
5. Candidate's CV, Research, Teaching, and Service Statements, three representative publications