

Guidelines for Promotion to Full Professor: Visibility and Responsibility

Promotion to the rank of Full Professor in the Purdue University Department of English acknowledges significant accomplishments in terms of national and international visibility and local responsibility.

National and International Visibility

A successful candidate for the rank of Full Professor will have a sustained record of leadership in the intellectual discourses of his or her field as evidenced by continued scholarly, creative, or pedagogical publication in leading venues since promotion to Associate Professor. Additional evidence of professional visibility may include presentations at national and international professional conferences, invited readings and lectures, chairing or organizing conferences, journal editing and editorial board membership, leadership of professional organizations, and participation in national or international engagement projects.

Local Responsibility

A candidate for Full Professor should be an accomplished teacher and an active mentor to students. Candidates are expected to have a record of leadership in the department, college, and/or university through, for example, administrative appointments, participation in interdisciplinary programs, committee service, and engagement projects.

Evidence for Promotion

Promotion is based on scholarly achievements in three areas: research and creative endeavor, scholarship of teaching, and scholarship of engagement. Promotion may be based primarily on one area of scholarship or on a combination of the three.

Research and Creative Endeavor

A successful candidate will have a record of accomplishment which may include books or monographs, edited collections and journal special issues, articles in refereed print or on-line journals, chapters in edited collections, conference presentations and invited talks.

Teaching

Successful candidates will be effective and committed teachers. When the scholarship of teaching is the primary basis for promotion, the record should include teaching awards; leadership in course development and innovation; and publication of scholarly work on teaching, textbooks, and other pedagogical materials in appropriate peer-reviewed books and journals, as well as websites and other on-line pedagogical material. In areas with graduate programs, such record can include chairing doctoral, M.A. and M.F.A. committees and participation in a significant number of them.

Engagement

Engagement is defined as scholarly work whose purview extends beyond the university and serves the broader interests of the local, national or international community.

When promotion is based primarily on the scholarship of engagement, successful candidates will have a record of significant involvement in intellectual work with acknowledged public consequence. Evidence of public consequence includes contribution to public debate, collaboration with community partners, or other outcomes contributing to the public good. Effective engagement and public scholarship are characterized by clear goals, adequate preparation, appropriate methods, significant results, effective presentation, and reflective critique. Successful representation of effective engagement will document these characteristics.

Service and Administration

Candidates are expected to have a record of leadership which may include administrative appointments; chairing committees; membership in important college and university committees; leadership in national and international professional organizations; journal editorship and membership on editorial boards. Commendable performance on administrative appointments in the department, college, or university should weigh strongly in a candidate's favor.