Regulation of Clinical and Lecturer Appointments
ACA-18

About This Policy

Effective Dates:
09-24-1994

Last Updated:
04-23-2019

Responsible University Administrator:
Board of Trustees, Indiana University

Policy Contact:
ufcoff@indiana.edu

Scope

All instructional appointments in the Lecturer/Teaching Professor and Clinical non-tenure track categories.

Policy Statement

1. Clinical Faculty
   a. Use of Clinical Appointments
      Clinical appointments are appropriate for those who work primarily in the clinical setting. Clinical faculty may be involved in research that derives from their primary assignment in clinical teaching and professional service; however, continued appointment and advancement in rank must be based on performance in teaching and service.

      • Explanation and Comment on the Use of Clinical Appointments: Clinical appointees teach and practice full-time in the clinical professional setting. It follows that clinical appointments will be limited to academic units (and departments within academic units) in the professional-client service disciplines. Clinical faculty may contribute to the research efforts of a unit through their clinical work, but they are not expected to do individual research. Faculty who, in addition to teaching and service, have portions of their time allocated to doing research for which they are a principal or co principal investigator, who have research laboratories, or who are otherwise expected to do individual research should be in tenured/ tenure-probationary positions. While individual faculty members hired in tenure-probationary appointments may switch to the clinical appointments during the first five years of their probationary period, such a switch must involve giving up the research component of their faculty work, except for their clinical role in collaborative research trials. Clinical appointments are not intended as a means of retaining tenure-probationary faculty members who will not be able to demonstrate the performance levels in teaching, research, and service required for the granting of tenure.

   b. Rights and Privileges
      1. Clinical faculty are expected to follow and be protected by university policies, including those pertaining to faculty hiring and faculty annual reviews. The faculty salary policies of the university, campus, school, and department shall apply to clinical faculty. Clinical faculty have the right to petition the campus faculty board of review. Clinical faculty are not eligible for university sabbatical leave, but schools may provide sabbatical-like leaves for their clinical faculty to provide opportunities for professional learning and collaboration with colleagues.
2. Participation in university and campus faculty governance is governed by the Constitution of the Faculty of Indiana University and the faculty constitutions on each campus. The role of clinical faculty in governance within the unit shall be determined by vote of the tenured and tenure-probationary faculty of the unit, provided that where non-tenure track appointees have voting privileges, their voting participation must be structured in a way that reserves at least 60% of voting weight to tenure track faculty. The academic integrity of the school and its programs ultimately is the responsibility of tenured and tenure-probationary faculty.

3. The rights of clinical faculty and the regulations concerning their roles within each school shall be written and available to the school faculty. A copy of all rights and regulations shall be filed with the campus academic officer and with the campus faculty governance body.

- **Explanation and Comment on the Rights and Privileges of Clinical Faculty:** The University Faculty Constitution defines the voting faculty as “all faculty members on tenure or accumulating credit toward tenure.” The Constitution further states that “the voting members of individual campuses may extend voting privileges to others on matters of individual campus significance.” The rationale for the distributions of rights and privileges is to leave the responsibility for the preservation of the most basic academic interests of the institution in the hands of those with the greatest protection of their academic freedom for the purposes of teaching, research, and service including the service of faculty governance; i.e. those with tenure. Non-tenure track appointees otherwise should have as many faculty privileges as is consistent with their qualifications and responsibilities.

The integrity of the academic programs will be best served by requiring that those individuals holding administrative appointments with direct authority for academic programs have the full range of academic qualifications associated with the tenure track, as well as the fuller protection of academic freedom that tenure provides.

4. Clinical faculty are not eligible for academic administrative appointments at and above the department chair level.

- **Further Explanation and Comment on the Rights and Privileges of Clinical Faculty:** The integrity of the academic programs will be best served by requiring that those individuals holding administrative appointments with direct authority for academic programs have the full range of academic qualifications associated with the tenure track, as well as the fuller protection of academic freedom that tenure provides.

c. **Appointment and Advancement**

The faculty of each unit using clinical appointments shall decide whether those appointments will be with the titles of Clinical Professor, Associate Clinical Professor and Assistant Clinical Professor, or Clinical Senior Lecturer and Clinical Lecturer. Initial clinical appointments should be at the level appropriate to the experience and accomplishments of the individual. The process for appointment with probationary status or appointment with a long-term contract shall go through the ordinary procedures for faculty appointments. Promotion in rank of Assistant and Associate Clinical Professors should go through the normal faculty procedures appropriate to the unit of the university, including peer review by the primary unit, and campus promotion (and tenure) committees. The faculty of each unit using Assistant and Associate Clinical Professor appointments shall adopt criteria for promotion that are appropriate to the duties that may be assigned to clinical appointees. Those criteria must be written, available to unit faculty, and filed with the campus academic officer. Clinical Lecturers shall be promoted to Clinical Senior Lecturers upon their being appointed to long-term contracts following a probationary period.

d. **Protection of Academic Freedom**

1. Clinical appointees are not eligible for tenure; however, in order to protect their academic freedom, individuals appointed as clinical faculty shall be given long-term contracts after a probationary period of not more than seven years. The exact mechanism for this shall be determined by the dean and the faculty governance body within each school using clinical appointments and be approved by the chancellor/provost, but the mechanism should be a long-term contract of not less than five years or be
Indiana University Policy: Regulation of Clinical and Lecturer Appointments

2. Clinical faculty appointments during the probationary period shall be subject to the same policies and procedures with respect to appointment, reappointment, non-reappointment, and dismissal as apply to tenure-probationary faculty during the probationary period. After the probationary period, dismissal of a clinical faculty member holding a longer term contract which has not expired may occur because of closure or permanent downsizing of the program in which the faculty member teaches and serves; otherwise, dismissal of such clinical faculty shall occur only for reasons of professional incompetence, serious misconduct, or financial exigency. Non-reappointment of clinical faculty to a new contract term may occur for the foregoing reasons or may occur as well for reason of changing staffing needs of the clinical program. Non-reappointment decisions regarding clinical faculty holding a long-term contract after the probationary period must be made with faculty consultation through processes established by the school’s faculty governance institutions. The jurisdiction of campus faculty grievance institutions includes cases of dismissal and non-reappointment of clinical faculty.

- **Explanation and Comment on Protection of Academic Freedom for Clinical Faculty:** Probationary periods for part-time faculty may be longer than seven years, where regulations adopted by the faculty of the academic unit so provide. University practice requires that probationary periods be served on a continuing basis unless a leave of absence has been applied for and been granted. The university is not obliged to relocate within the institution clinical faculty whose positions are eliminated because of closure, permanent downsizing, or changing staffing needs of their clinical programs. Where an instructional line is converted from non-tenure to tenure track, a clinical faculty member occupying the line may apply for the tenure-track position, but is not guaranteed appointment.

**History:** University Faculty Council, February 13, 2001; Board of Trustees, May 4, 2001.

2. Lecturers & Teaching Professors
   
a. **Use of Lecturer/Teaching Professor Appointments**
      Lecturers/Teaching Professors are academic appointees whose primary responsibility is teaching. Lecturers/Teaching Professors’ assigned responsibilities may include research and service only in support of teaching.

- **Explanation and Comment on the Use of Lecturer Appointments:** Those who teach should inquire into subject matter and pedagogy to maintain and advance the quality of their instruction, and those who conduct research should inform others of the product of their work. Further, inquiry (research) and communication (teaching) are fundamental rights that the university would not and cannot prohibit. Nevertheless, those who are assigned and undertake, on behalf of the university, the academic missions of teaching, research, and service in the full sense should have the status and protections of tenure-track appointments, and the assignments given to those in the various appointment classifications must be appropriately regulated.

b. **Rights and Privileges**
   1. Lecturers/Teaching Professors are expected to follow and be protected by university policies, including those pertaining to faculty hiring and faculty annual reviews. The faculty salary policies of the university, campus, school, and department shall apply to lecturers/teaching professors. Lecturers/teaching professors have the right to petition the campus faculty board of review. Lecturers/teaching professors are not eligible for university sabbatical leave, but schools may provide sabbatical-like leaves for their lecturers/teaching professors to provide opportunities for professional learning and collaboration with colleagues.

   2. Participation in university and campus faculty governance is governed by the Constitution of the Faculty of Indiana University and the faculty constitutions on each campus. The role of lecturers/teaching
professors in governance within the unit shall be determined by vote of the tenured and tenure-probationary faculty of the unit, provided that where non-tenure track faculty have voting privileges, their voting participation must be structured in a way that reserves at least 60% of voting weight to tenure-track faculty. The academic integrity of the school and its programs ultimately is the responsibility of tenured and tenure-probationary faculty.

3. The rights of lecturers/teaching professors and the regulations concerning their roles within each school shall be written and available to the school faculty. A copy of all rights and regulations shall be filed with the campus academic officer and with the campus faculty governance body.

- **Explanation and Comment on the Rights and Privileges of Lecturers/Teaching Professors:** The University Faculty Constitution defines the voting faculty as “all faculty members on tenure or accumulating credit toward tenure.” The Constitution further states that “the voting members of individual campuses may extend voting privileges to others on matters of individual campus significance.” The rationale for the distributions of rights and privileges is to leave the responsibility for the preservation of the most basic academic interests of the institution in the hands of those with the greatest protection of their academic freedom for the purposes of teaching, research, and service including the service of faculty governance; i.e., those with tenure. Non-tenure track faculty otherwise should have as many faculty privileges as is consistent with their qualifications and responsibilities.

4. Lecturers/teaching professors are not eligible for academic administrative appointments at and above the department chair level.

- **Further Explanation and Comment on the Rights and Privileges of Lecturers/Teaching Professors:** The integrity of the academic programs will be best served by requiring that those individuals holding administrative appointments with direct authority for academic programs have the full range of academic qualifications associated with the tenure track, as well as the fuller protection of academic freedom that tenure provides.

c. **Appointment and Advancement**

   Initial lecturer/teaching professor appointments should be at the level appropriate to the experience and accomplishments of the individual. The process for appointment with probationary status or appointment with a long-term contract shall go through the ordinary procedures for faculty appointments. Lecturers shall be promoted to Senior Lecturers upon their being appointed to long term contracts following a probationary period, and Senior Lecturers will be promoted to Teaching Professor as appropriate.

d. **Protection of Academic Freedom**

   1. Lecturers/teaching professors are not eligible for tenure; however, in order to protect their academic freedom, individuals appointed as lecturers/teaching professors shall be given long-term contracts after a probationary period of not more than seven years. The exact mechanism for this shall be determined by the dean and the faculty governance body within each school using lecturer/teaching professor appointments and be approved by the chancellor/provost, but the mechanism should be a long-term contract of not less than five years or some equivalent, such as a rolling three year contract. The criteria for granting long-term contracts after a probationary period shall be analogous to the criteria for granting tenure, except that lecturers/teaching professors shall earn the right to a long-term contract on the basis of their excellence only in those responsibilities that may be assigned to them. Each school will establish procedures and specific criteria for review of individuals concerning the renewal of long-term contracts or their equivalent.

   2. Lecturer/teaching professor appointments during the probationary period shall be subject to the same policies and procedures with respect to appointment, reappointment, non-reappointment, and dismissal as apply to tenure-probationary faculty during the probationary period. After the probationary period, dismissal of a lecturer/teaching professor holding a longer term contract which has not expired may occur because of closure or permanent downsizing of the program in which the faculty member teaches and serves; otherwise, dismissal of such lecturer/teaching professor shall occur only for reasons of professional incompetence, serious misconduct, or financial exigency. Non-reappointment of lecturers/teaching professors to a new contract term may occur for the foregoing reasons or may
occur as well for reason of changing staffing needs of the academic unit’s program. Non-reappointment decisions regarding lecturers/teaching professors holding a longer-term contract after the probationary period must be made with faculty consultation through processes established by the school’s faculty governance institutions. The jurisdiction of campus faculty grievance institutions includes cases of dismissal and non-reappointment of lecturers.

- **Explanation and Comment on the Protection of Academic Freedom for Lecturers/Teaching Professors**: Probationary periods for part-time faculty may be longer than seven years, where regulations adopted by the faculty of the academic unit so provide. University practice requires that probationary periods be served on a continuing basis unless a leave of absence has been applied for and been granted. The university is not obliged to relocate within the institution lecturers/teaching professors whose positions are eliminated because of closure, permanent downsizing, or changing staffing needs of their academic programs. Where an instructional line is converted from non-tenure to tenure track, a lecturer/teaching professor occupying the line may apply for the tenure-track position, but is not guaranteed appointment.

**History**: University Faculty Council, February 13, 2001; Board of Trustees, May 4, 2001.

### Reason For Policy

1. The regulation of lecturer/teaching professor and clinical appointments is intended to further the Trustees’ policy regarding “associate faculty.”

2. Associate faculty have played and will continue to play an important role in the teaching mission of Indiana University. For this reason, all campuses should establish formal policies treating the appointment, evaluation and professional development of such faculty.

3. Standards for appointment for associate faculty should guarantee that courses are taught by qualified individuals. Their teaching should be evaluated on a regular basis by customary measures of classroom effectiveness. Reappointment of associate faculty should be predicated on satisfactory teaching evaluations.

4. Schools and departments should take steps to integrate associate with full-time faculty and to promote their professional development. Such steps should include formal orientation of associate faculty to the university and to their specific teaching responsibilities. Associate faculty should be provided with resources adequate to promote their success as teachers and the enhancement of their pedagogical skills. Exceptional performance by associate faculty should be recognized by appropriate measures.

**History**: Board of Trustees, September 24, 1994.