

**College of Professional Studies  
Rules and Procedures  
The George Washington University  
Washington, DC**

Adopted April 11, 2003  
Revised May 18, 2009  
Revised March 5, 2018

**PREAMBLE**

The purpose of these Rules and Procedures is to complement the University Bylaws and Faculty Code for the governance of the College of Professional Studies and provide a framework for a highly innovative academic enterprise within which the College will contribute substantially to George Washington University's mission as a comprehensive global research university.

**I. Name of the Organization**

The name of this organization shall be the College of Professional Studies, hereafter referred to as the College.

**II. Purpose and Subordination of Rules and Procedures**

These Rules and Procedures set forth the structures and procedures by which the College defines its authority to formulate and fulfill its educational policies and programs. These Rules and Procedures are supplemental and subordinate to the University Bylaws and Faculty Code.

**III. Faculty Membership**

A. The faculty and voting membership in the College shall consist of the Dean, full-time regular and specialized faculty budgeted to the College, and faculty of other schools who have been appointed directors of programs offered by the College (hereafter referred to as *the faculty*). The Dean shall vote only in the event of a tie vote.

As indicated in the GW Faculty Code, Regular Faculty are full-time faculty members with the title of university professor, professor, associate professor, assistant professor, and instructor who are tenured or tenure-track, and non-tenure-track full-time faculty members who are on a renewable contract, do not hold either a regular or tenured appointment at another university, have a nine or twelve month appointment and who have contractual responsibilities for all of the following: research, teaching, and service.

Specialized Faculty are faculty members with the title of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, and instructor who are on a renewable contract, do not hold either a regular or tenured appointment at another university, have a nine or twelve month appointment and who have responsibilities for one or two of the following areas: research, teaching, and service. Specialized Faculty include but are not limited to faculty members holding clinical, research, and teaching faculty positions, which may be reflected in their titles.

B. Non-voting ex officio membership in the College faculty is extended to the President of the University, the Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs (Provost), members of the Dean's Council who are not otherwise eligible for voting membership (such as ex officio members).

C. Non-voting membership in the faculty is extended to retired members of the faculty and part-time temporary instructors or full-time visiting faculty who are not accorded voting membership as provided in paragraph A above.

#### **IV. Faculty Participation**

A. The Dean's Council shall establish procedures for faculty participation in decisions relating to the addition, revision or elimination of curricular offerings. These procedures should provide for the participation, at a minimum, of the regular faculty members of the rank of assistant professors and higher.

B. Faculty powers shall extend to:

1. determining requirements for admission to the College's programs and requirements for maintaining good academic standing.
2. approving the eligibility of candidates to receive degrees in Professional Studies before convocations.
3. participating in the innovative research and analytical services of the College.
4. participating in the search for additional faculty as the need arises.

C. Limits on the Faculty

The College of Professional Studies shall not initiate a degree program that duplicates a degree program offered by another school nor shall the College initiate a degree program that overlaps substantially with a degree program offered by another school, unless:

- (a) the Dean's Council of the College has approved that program, and
- (b) the appropriate corporate officer of the university has authorized the College to initiate that program after consulting with the faculty of the other school. The College of

Professional Studies shall not confer any degree that duplicates a degree offered by another school.

## **V. Dean**

The chief administrative and academic officer of the College will be a Dean, who reports to the Provost, and enjoys the same authority and status as other deans within the University structure.

As per the Faculty Organization Plan (FOP), the Dean serves as an administrative member of the University Faculty Senate. Until such time as the FOP provides for direct representation of College of Professional Studies on the Faculty Senate, the Dean shall represent the views of the College Faculty before the Faculty Senate.

### **A. Selection of the Dean**

When a search is required due to a vacancy in the position of Dean, the Provost shall appoint a special faculty committee jointly with the deans of the schools whose programs are most directly affected by the College of Professional Studies, as determined by the Provost.

The Provost should make appointments consistent with the Search Committee Composition detailed in Procedures C.2.b of the Faculty Code and the Chair of the Board of Trustees shall appoint trustees to serve as members of the search committee.

### **B. Periodic Review of the Dean**

The decanal review procedures in the Faculty Code Procedures C.2.b.ii will be followed in the college.

### **C. Faculty Administrative Officers**

Faculty administrative officers of the College, including but not limited to assistant and associate deans, shall be appointed by the Dean in consultation with the Dean's Council.

## **VI. Dean's Council**

### **A. Purpose of Dean's Council**

The Dean's Council ensures sufficient input from the faculty of the collaborating schools and the dissemination of information about the College throughout the University community.

### **B. Dean's Council Membership**

The Dean's Council shall consist of ten members. Five shall be tenured and shall be elected, one each, by colleges/schools whose programs are determined to be among the

most directly affected by the College<sup>1</sup>. Three members shall be appointed by the CPS dean to include program directors or department chairs from programs/departments with off-campus programs or participating in CPS programs. Two members shall be elected by the CPS faculty. The elected faculty will serve two-year terms and the CPS Dean's appointees will serve one-year terms. The terms of the non-CPS school representatives may be of one or two years as determined by the appointing school.

In the event that the Dean and members of the Dean's Council are convinced that any particular member of the Dean's Council is no longer discharging her/his obligations including regular attendance at meetings, she or he may be removed from the Dean's Council by a majority vote of those present provided there is a quorum.

A quorum for purposes of transacting the business of the council shall be one more than one-half its membership.

#### C. Election of Dean's Council Chair

The Dean's Council shall elect a chair annually from among its membership. and the chair in consultation with the Dean of the College shall determine the frequency and scheduling of its meetings and the agendas.

#### D. Dean's Council Meeting Schedule

The Dean's Council shall meet at least once each month during the academic year, September through May, but may alter the frequency according to its needs by majority vote. Additional meetings or agenda items may be requested of the chair of the Dean's Council, by the Dean, or by petition of 50 percent of the voting members of the College faculty.

#### E. Functions and Goals

The Dean's Council shall:

1. Act as a liaison between the College or affected school faculty and the Dean.
2. Advise and make recommendations to the Dean on the establishment of new degree programs.
3. Advise the Dean on all academic matters affecting the welfare of the College.
4. Advise the Dean on appointments of associate deans and program directors.

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<sup>1</sup> As of this revision, the five schools that are determined to fall in this category are: Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, School of Engineering and Applied Science, Graduate School of Education and Human Development, School of Business, and Milken Institute School of Public Health.

5. Consult with the Provost on the review of the Dean.
6. Review periodically (at a minimum every five years) each College course of studies to determine whether it should remain in the College, be transferred to one of the other schools or colleges, or be terminated. The review by the Dean's Council should be done in conjunction with guidelines and timing established for academic program review within the University.
7. As needed, and on a case-by-case basis, advise the dean on recommendations to the provost regarding the degrees to be offered by the College.
8. Act on behalf of the College faculty on any matter within the faculty's jurisdiction that may require action between the meetings of the faculty. The Dean's Council shall report through the Dean to the College faculty at the stated meetings of the faculty a summary of actions taken on behalf of the faculty since the last report.
9. Serve in an agenda-making capacity to prepare such actions and proposals as the Dean or the Council itself may wish to present to a meeting of the faculty.
10. Serve as a policy review body to assist the Dean in resolving specific programmatic problems and as a policy planning body to explore and define future programmatic and faculty recruitment directions.
11. Nominate candidates for election to College or University committees, as required.
12. Appoint such other committees as will assist it in the performance of its functions.
13. Be the principal committee of the College faculty on all disciplinary matters.
14. Advise the Dean on student appeals concerning petitions relating to academic status or requirements.
15. Pursuant to the GW Faculty Code (IV D 1), act as the school-wide personnel committee for the College and as the elected standing committee.

## **VII. Program Directors**

College faculty may serve as program directors in conjunction with specific programs arising out of the College's strategic partnerships and projects, and report directly to the associate deans. Program directors also may include faculty from schools of the University. While functioning primarily as program developers, their faculty status will assure quality control within that program and enhance the credibility of the program with prospective clients, as well as help ensure non-duplication of existing University programs. Faculty participation should serve to preserve and encourage rigorous academic measures such that the College may be expected to uphold traditional Middle States accreditation standards. New programs may have new faculty become part of the College whereas faculty serving as program directors for the College and already affiliated with existing schools will retain existing school affiliations.

When a potential organizational client or partner prefers or anticipates a degree, the associate Deans will investigate the possibility of offering an existing degree or a joint degree with a relevant school before the College initiates its own degree, ensuring non-duplication of existing programs. The resulting CPS degree will be administered by a program director and will be in Professional Studies (with a concentration in a specified field) and could be granted at the associate, bachelor, undergraduate certificate, master, or graduate certificate level.

## **VIII. Committee of Program Directors**

The Dean may appoint an associate dean to act as convener and chief administrative officer of a Committee of program directors which shall normally meet once a month, or according to needs, during the academic year, to consider and make recommendations to the Dean on matters of common concern.

## **IX. Appointment and Reappointment of Full-time College Faculty**

The following paragraphs apply to faculty appointed to the College of Professional Studies. Appointment of faculty who serve in off-campus programs offered by other University schools and marketed by the College is in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the school offering the program.

A. Appointments, renewals, promotions, terminations, compensation, and all other terms and conditions of employment shall be made solely on the basis of merit and in accordance with the University's policies regarding equal employment opportunity.

B. Faculty appointments to teach in College programs not leading to a degree may be made by the Dean in consultation with the Dean's Council. For College programs leading to a degree, faculty including program directors shall be appointed by the Dean from a list of candidates recommended by a majority of the Dean's Council with advice from current College faculty and other appropriate GW faculty.

C. The Dean of the College also may seek the consultation and recommendations of the Dean's Council regarding faculty selection and appointment between scheduled meetings of the Dean's Council.

D. All College full-time faculty members will be appointed for a contractual term, normally two or three years, and will not be eligible for tenure within CPS. Appointments to the College may be made at any rank and may be renewed as many times as the needs of the College require. Notice of nonrenewal will be in accordance with the *Faculty Code*.

E. Part-time temporary instructors are normally appointed for one semester. No reappointment is assumed unless positive notice to reappoint is given.

F. Just as required of all University faculty, Faculty Evaluation Reports will be required on an annual basis of the College Faculty for presentation to the College associate deans, with final review by the Dean. The associate deans will discuss the Annual Faculty Evaluation Report individually with each faculty member. The Annual Faculty Evaluation Reports will be submitted to the Office of the Provost.

#### **X. Criteria for Appointment, Reappointment, and Promotion of College Faculty**

A. The Dean shall appoint College faculty and program directors to programs leading to a degree from a list of candidates recommended by a majority of the Dean's Council. In all cases, the College faculty will serve a contractual term (which may be renewed) and will not be eligible for tenure within the College.

B. The Dean, the Dean's Council, and the members of the faculty as a whole shall in the case of each person under consideration for appointment, reappointment, or promotion utilize the general criteria elucidated in the *Faculty Code*, bearing in mind to assign proper weight to the three areas of teaching, research, and service in accordance with the mission of the college and its needs, with emphasis on excellence and relevant experiences and accomplishments in designated professional fields. The Dean's Council may appoint a subcommittee to act on its behalf for evaluating each candidate for renewal or promotion.

C. General Criteria for Appointment or Reappointment:

General criteria consistent with the mission of the College and nature of the expectations for appointments and reappointments shall be in accordance with the stipulations of the *Faculty Code*. In addition, they may include expert knowledge of a teaching area complemented by relevant professional experience outside of the academic environment, and commitment to the goals and mission of the College.

#### D. Criteria for Appointment by Rank

In addition to the general criteria noted above, the College wishes to recognize and value a diversity of contributions to its mission, as appropriate and relevant, in the process of appointing and promoting faculty. For ranks above Instructor, all appointments require a completed doctoral degree (unless a master's is terminal in the field). All appointments require a recommendation from the Office of Academic Affairs based on the candidate's educational background and performance in the three areas of teaching, service, and scholarship – with emphasis on four functions of scholarship consistent with and enhancing the mission of the College, i.e., scholarship of discovery, integration, application of knowledge, and teaching.

E. Detailed set of criteria and procedures for the promotion of full-time faculty in the College are given in the attached document entitled “College of Professional Studies Promotion Process and Criteria.”

### **XI. Faculty Meetings**

A. At least two meetings of the College faculty will be held per year, one each fall and spring terms. The Dean shall fix the date of the meetings and give reasonable notice to all members and other parties who may be invited because of their interest in the agenda. The Dean or Dean's designate shall preside over the meetings and shall appoint a recorder to keep minutes.

B. The Dean may call additional meetings as necessary, and shall fix the date and agenda and give reasonable notice to all faculty members. Additional meetings also may be called by the Dean's Council or by petition of at least 20 percent of voting members of the faculty to the Dean.

C. Forty percent of voting members shall constitute a quorum. Except where otherwise noted, decisions of the faculty must be adopted by a majority of those present and voting.

D. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the faculty in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Rules and Procedures, and any special rules of order the faculty may adopt. The Dean or Dean's designate presiding may, during any meeting, appoint a parliamentarian, who may advise on a ruling or on proper methods of procedure.

E. At the last regularly scheduled faculty meeting of the spring semester, the Dean shall seek volunteers of College Faculty who would like to be nominated to serve on Faculty Senate standing committees.



## **XII. Amendment to Rules and Procedures**

These Rules and Procedures may be amended by a majority vote of the College faculty present and voting at a stated meeting. Proposed amendments shall be circulated with the call for the meeting. As with all School and Department Rules and Procedures, their final approval resides with the Provost.

## **XIII. Publication of Rules and Procedures**

A copy of these Rules and Procedures and any amendments to them shall be made publicly available.