

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY FACULTY MANUAL

PART VIII

Personnel Policies and Procedures for the Faculty of East Carolina University¹

¹For other policies and procedures dealing with faculty appointments, see *ECU Faculty Manual*, Part. X.

PART VIII - PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE FACULTY OF
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

SECTION I

PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE FACULTY OF
EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
(Text moved from former Appendix C)

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- I. Selection and Appointment of New Faculty
 - A. Determination of Number and Nature of Positions
Allocation of faculty positions is the prerogative of the Academic Council.

Acting in accord with the policies and procedures set forth in the Unit Code, the unit administrator shall recommend to the next higher administrator (for conveyance to the Academic Council) the number and nature of faculty positions needed to carry out the unit's mission and achieve the university, division, college and unit planning goals. Such recommendations shall be developed with input from the unit's fixed-term, probationary term,

and tenured faculty, and shall contain justifications addressing the unit staffing plan and appropriate planning goals of the university, division, college and unit.

The Academic Council and deans shall not require that a faculty position be fixed-term rather than probationary term unless sound reasons exist. Such reasons include, but are not limited to, (a) the position is not permanently assigned to the unit, (b) the position is addressing temporary needs, (c) the position cannot be filled by a faculty member with a terminal degree, (d) the duties of the position are primarily clinical, (e) the position is by its nature term-limited (term-limited endowed professorships, for example), (f) this reflects the preference of the faculty member taking the position or (g) budgetary considerations.

B. Selection Procedure

The unit administrator shall notify the unit personnel committee of the number and nature of positions allocated to the unit. The selection of candidates must then proceed in accordance with *Part IX, Section I. Tenure and Promotion Policies and Procedures*, the most recently revised Affirmative Action Plan, and applicable unit code provisions. The type of search (i.e. local, regional, national) required is governed by [University EEO policies](#).

C. General Criteria¹

For appointment, a faculty member who is tenured or probationary is evaluated on past achievements and potential for future contributions in:

- Teaching
- Scholarship (Research, Creative Activity/Innovation, Engagement and/or Outreach).
- Service to the university, the profession, and the community.

1. Teaching

East Carolina University recognizes the primary importance of teaching. East Carolina University expects each member of the faculty to have knowledge of subject matter commensurate with one's teaching assignment, to maintain awareness of developments in one's discipline, and to communicate to students one's knowledge of and interest in the discipline. The faculty member will encourage students in responsible and careful inquiry, in appreciation of the interrelation of various disciplines, and in recognition of the uses of learning and the value of the educated mind. Teaching includes activities and responsibilities beyond the classroom setting, e.g., advisement; mentoring; laboratory supervision; clinical rounds by a physician/professor accompanied by students; the direction of research projects and papers, dissertations, and theses; and other contacts and relationships outside the classroom.

2. Scholarship (Research, Creative Activity/Innovation, Engagement and/or Outreach)

Scholarship refers to the scholarship of research, the scholarship of creative activity/innovation, and the scholarship of engagement and/or outreach. The relative importance of each factor and the type of activity to be considered under each factor must be clearly defined in the unit code. The procedures by which relative weights are established for each individual faculty member for annual evaluation, tenure and promotion must also be clearly described in the unit code. East Carolina University encourages and supports the continuing efforts of faculty to develop a deeper appreciation of the

²These criteria are not designed to be used for persons with administrative rank to evaluate their administrative service. Criteria for that purpose shall be developed by proper administrative authority.

importance of professional competency acquired through scholarship that is appropriate to one's discipline. A faculty member's scholarship shall reflect the high professional standards incumbent upon those who enjoy full academic freedom; such activities must be measured by standards of quality, not merely by quantity. Evaluation of scholarship must be based primarily on peer-reviewed materials as defined in the unit code.

3. Service

East Carolina University considers service to the university, the academic profession, and the community as an important aspect of academic performance. (See Section III.4).

For appointment, the fixed-term faculty member is evaluated on past achievements and potential for future contributions in the areas of responsibility stated in the contract and established in the unit code.

D. Requirements for ranks and titles

1. General Provisions

Appointments are made at the academic ranks of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, and professor. These are the only ranks which may involve a permanent tenure commitment. Appointments to all other titles are for a definite term and do not involve a permanent tenure commitment.

The following are the minimum required qualifications which may be considered when making appointments.

2. Ranks of Probationary Term Appointments

Instructor

- has evidence of a sound educational background for the specific position, or has equivalent professional experience
- has completed most or all the requirements for the appropriate terminal degree
- has demonstrable proof that the degree will be obtained within a short period of time as agreed upon by the academic unit and the appointing officer
- has demonstrated potential for effective teaching
- has demonstrated potential for effective clinical practice in disciplines where appropriate

Assistant Professor

- has qualifications of the previous rank
- holds the appropriate terminal degree, as evaluated by the academic unit and affirmed by the appointing officer and the profession concerned
- exhibits evidence of potential for continued professional growth in teaching effectiveness, and scholarship.
- has demonstrated ability and willingness to participate in departmental, college, and university affairs
- has membership in professional organizations
- has demonstrated expertise in clinical practice in disciplines where appropriate

Associate Professor

- has qualifications of the previous rank
- has demonstrated teaching effectiveness
- has a record of scholarship resulting in publication or comparable productivity

- has demonstrated ability and willingness to participate in departmental, college, and university affairs
- has a record of effective service to the profession
- has a record of effective clinical practice in disciplines where appropriate

Professor

- has qualifications of the previous rank
- has an established record of excellence in teaching
- has a significant record of scholarship resulting in publication or comparable productivity
- has demonstrated excellent ability and willingness to participate in departmental, college, and university affairs
- has a record of significant service to the profession
- has a record of effective clinical practice in disciplines where appropriate

3. Titles of Fixed-Term Appointments

a. Faculty with duties primarily in instruction

Teaching Instructor

- holds, at a minimum, a master's degree appropriate to the area of instruction, or has equivalent professional experience
- has demonstrated potential for effective teaching

Teaching Assistant Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- holds the appropriate terminal degree, as evaluated by the academic unit and affirmed by the appointing officer and the profession concerned
- has demonstrated effectiveness in teaching

Teaching Associate Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- has demonstrated superior teaching ability
- engages in professional development activities

Teaching Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- has demonstrated excellence in teaching
- engages in professional development activities
- has demonstrated a degree of proficiency sufficient to establish an excellent reputation among colleagues
- is qualified and competent in mentoring others (such as graduate students, teaching instructors, etc.)

b. Faculty with duties primarily in research

Research faculty are typically externally funded. Research faculty are encouraged to give seminars and teach occasional courses in their specialty. Teaching is at the discretion of the unit and the availability of funds.

Research Instructor

- holds a minimum of a master's degree appropriate for the specific position or has equivalent professional experience
- has demonstrated potential for effective research
- should be capable of carrying out individual research or should be trained in research procedures

- should have had the experience and specialized training necessary to develop and interpret data required for success in such research projects as may be undertaken

Research Assistant Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- holds the appropriate terminal degree, as evaluated by the academic unit and affirmed by the appointing officer and the profession concerned
- has demonstrated effectiveness in research
- is qualified and competent to direct the work of others (such as technicians, graduate students, etc)

Research Associate Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- has extensive successful experience in scholarly or creative endeavors
- has the ability to propose, develop, and manage major research projects

Research Professor.

- has qualifications of the previous title
- has demonstrated a degree of proficiency sufficient to establish an excellent reputation among colleagues
- has demonstrated scholarly production in research, publications, professional achievements or other distinguished and creative activity.

c. Faculty with duties primarily in clinical teaching

Clinical Instructor

- holds, at a minimum, a graduate degree appropriate for the specific position or has equivalent professional experience
- has demonstrated potential in clinical practice and teaching in the field

Clinical Assistant Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- holds the appropriate professional degree, as evaluated by the academic unit and affirmed by the appointing officer and the profession concerned
- has training and experience in an area of specialization
- has demonstrated expertise in clinical practice and teaching in the field

Clinical Associate Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- has extensive successful experience in clinical or professional practice in a field of specializations, or in a subdivision of the field, and in working with and/or directing others (such as professionals, faculty members, graduate students, etc) in clinical activities in the field
- has demonstrated superior teaching ability

Clinical Professor

- has qualifications of the previous title
- has demonstrated a degree of sustained excellence in clinical practice and teaching sufficient to establish an outstanding reputation among colleagues

d. Additional faculty titles

Artist-in-Residence; Writer-in-Residence. These titles may be used to designate temporary appointments, at any salary and experience level, of persons who are serving for a limited time or part-time, and who are not intended to be considered for professorial appointment.

Adjunct Instructor; Adjunct Assistant Professor; Adjunct Associate Professor; Adjunct Professor. These titles are used to appoint outstanding persons who have a primary employment responsibility outside the university or in a different department in the university, and who bring some specific professional expertise to the academic program. These positions are typically unfunded.

Affiliate Instructor; Affiliate Assistant Professor; Affiliate Associate Professor; Affiliate Professor. These titles are used in the School of Medicine to appoint outstanding persons who have a primary employment responsibility outside the university and who bring some specific professional expertise to the academic program. These positions are typically unfunded.

Visiting Instructor; Visiting Assistant Professor; Visiting Associate Professor; Visiting Professor. The prefix “visiting” before an academic title is used to designate a short-term full or part time appointment without tenure. Therefore the visiting title shall not be used for periods of time beyond the initial contract period. It shall be used only for those fixed-term faculty members who are visitors, temporary replacements, or for whose disciplines the institution in good faith expects to have only a short-term need. Use of the visiting title for an individual for more than 3 years is a misuse of this title.

4. Emeritus status

Based on criteria specified in the unit code and upon recommendation by the unit personnel committee and appropriate administrators, the Chancellor may confer the title “emeritus” or “emerita” upon a retired (including Phased Retirement participant), permanently disabled, or deceased faculty member, who has made a significant contribution to the university through a long and distinguished record of scholarship, teaching, and/or service. (FS Resolution #13-97, December 2013)

E. Initial Appointment

[For additional provisions related to initial faculty appointments, see *ECU Faculty Manual*, Part IX, Section I (II).]

Appointment to the faculty is made by the chancellor or his/her designee.² Upon receiving recommendations by appropriate unit committees and administrators, the chancellor or his/her designee shall issue a contract for initial appointment to the faculty that becomes binding upon being executed by the faculty appointee.

The contract shall specify, at minimum: rank or title; salary rate; length of appointment, tenure status [either fixed term, probationary term, or appointment with permanent tenure as defined in the *Faculty Manual*, Part IX]; initial assignments and/or responsibilities; and reference to the

² Reference to the chancellor’s designee is limited to the Academic Council.

criteria for evaluation of faculty performance, as provided in Part IX, unit codes, and other appropriate documents; and any specific terms and conditions of employment.

Any action conferring permanent tenure with the initial faculty appointment requires approval of the Board of Trustees.

II. Assignments of Faculty Workload

Faculty workload is governed by the [Faculty Workload Administrative](#) Regulation.

By the end of the Spring semester for 9 month faculty, and by the end of the summer session for 12 month faculty, and prior to making final faculty workload assignments and after soliciting faculty preferences, the unit administrator shall apprise each unit faculty member, in writing, of the duties and responsibilities for the coming academic year.

A. Assignment of Teaching Responsibilities

The unit administrator assigns teaching responsibilities. If changes in a faculty member's assignment become necessary, the faculty member shall be notified, when possible, at least two weeks prior to the beginning of each semester of such changes prior to the effective date of the amended assignment.

B. Teaching Load

The definition of a semester credit hour is governed by [Administrative Regulation #02.07.01](#).

Full-time faculty members whose primary responsibilities are teaching should not be required to teach more than 12 credit hours per semester or 6 credit hours per summer session, with the exception of faculty members who voluntarily teach directed readings and similar courses. If exceptional circumstances require that a faculty member be assigned more than 12 credit hours in a semester, he or she should be appropriately compensated for the excess teaching load during that term or be given the equivalent reduced teaching load the following semester.

C. Assignment of Released Time

Assignments of released time are governed by [Faculty Scholarly Reassignment](#) Administrative Regulation. Faculty members who are to be granted released time shall be informed in writing of the purpose of the reduced assignment.

(FS Resolution #14-04, March 2014)

III. Annual Evaluation

Each faculty member with either a fixed-term, probationary term, or permanently tenured appointment shall perform his/her duties according to the ECU's [Statement on Professional Ethics](#) and shall receive annually an evaluation of his/her performance from the unit administrator which shall be based upon current academic year data. The annual performance evaluation of faculty members shall employ the criteria contained in the unit code approved by the chancellor. This annual evaluation shall:

- be in writing;
- be discussed with the faculty member prior to being sent to any other administrator or placed in the faculty member's personnel file; in the case of faculty members with probationary term appointments, a record of this discussion shall be placed in the faculty member's personnel file;
- be signed and dated by the unit administrator and the faculty member, who may attach to the evaluation a concise comment regarding the evaluation. The faculty member has 4 calendar days after receiving the evaluation to attach the statement. The signature of the faculty

member signifies that the faculty member has read, but does not necessarily concur in, the evaluation.

The unit administrator shall forward to each faculty member a copy of that member's annual evaluation within ten calendar days of completing the evaluations of unit members.

The evaluation of probationary term and permanently tenured faculty shall be based upon that year's duties and responsibilities (except data from the previous year's Spring semester survey of student opinion) and shall consider:

1. Teaching

Teaching is the primary function of the university. Teaching may include classroom and laboratory instruction, student advising, mentoring student research, and other pedagogical activities. Teaching must be evaluated using multiple methods selected from the list below:

- a. review by the unit administrator and/or peers of course materials such as syllabi, reading lists, teaching outlines, audiovisual materials, student manuals, student assignments and examinations, and/or other materials prepared for or relevant to teaching.
- b. samples of student work on assignments, projects, papers, juries or other examples of student achievement.
- c. formal methods of peer review, detailed in Faculty Senate resolution [#17-61](#). The peer review instrument for face-to-face courses is provided in Faculty Senate resolution [#16-60](#). The peer review instrument for on-line courses is provided in Faculty Senate resolution [#11-53](#).
- d. direct observation of teaching by the unit administrator.
- e. review of data from the Student Perception of Teaching Survey (SPOTS). The data from SPOTS is qualitative data and is not designed to serve the purpose of a measurement instrument. Therefore, SPOTS data may not be converted into a numerical score to be used in faculty evaluation.
- f. other procedures provided for in unit codes. (FS Resolution #12-76, July 2012)

The relative weight given to teaching, scholarship, and service in personnel decisions shall be determined by each unit code. In no case, however, shall service be weighed more heavily than either teaching or scholarship.

2. scholarship;

3. patient care;

4. services rendered on department, school, college, and university committees, councils, and senates; service to professional organizations; service to local, state and national governments; contributions to the development of public forums, institutes, continuing education projects, patient services and consulting in the private and public sectors; and

5. other responsibilities as may be appropriate.

The evaluation of fixed-term faculty members shall be based on their performance of duties as stated in their contracts.

IV. Reappointment of Probationary Term Faculty Members

Refer to Part IX of the *ECU Faculty Manual*.

V. Subsequent new appointments of Fixed-Term Faculty Members

Faculty positions that are occupied by faculty members holding fixed-term contracts shall periodically be evaluated to determine if it is feasible to convert the position to one that is tenure-eligible. When it is recommended that a position that is occupied by a fixed-term faculty member be made tenure-eligible, the personnel committee and unit administrator shall determine collaboratively the appropriate kind of search recommended (search waiver, internal search, or external search), with the final approval authority for the type of search (i.e. local, regional, national) governed by [University EEO policies](#).

The repeated re-employment in full-time, fixed-term positions of faculty members whose qualifications are on a par with those who are probationary term faculty members in the unit is justifiable when special conditions apply such as: (a) the position is not permanently assigned to the unit, (b) the position is addressing temporary needs, (c) the position cannot be filled by a faculty member with a terminal degree, (d) the duties of the position are primarily clinical, (e) the position is by its nature term-limited (term-limited endowed professorships, for example), (f) reflects the preference of the faculty member taking the position. Qualified full-time, fixed-term faculty members should be encouraged to apply for tenure-eligible positions, or (g) budgetary considerations.

Repeated re-employment of part-time fixed-term faculty members should be subject to the same conditions listed in a-f in the above paragraph. The continuous re-employment of faculty in part-time or temporary positions should be avoided, unless mutually beneficial for the candidate and the unit.

VI. Professional Advancement

Advancement in title for fixed-term faculty and promotion for tenured and probationary term faculty are means through which professional achievement is encouraged, recognized, and rewarded by the university. Evaluation of faculty for purposes of promotion or advancement in title shall accord with the regulations established in accordance with the unit code and shall employ the criteria contained in the unit code approved by the chancellor (*ECU Faculty Manual, Part IV*).

Specific regulations and criteria governing evaluation of faculty for purposes of promotion or advancement in title may vary from unit to unit. For evaluations pertaining to fixed-term subsequent new appointment at a higher title, the criteria shall be stated in the unit code.

As a minimum each unit shall:

- apply published criteria in teaching, scholarship and service for evaluating faculty for promotion or advancement in title;
- make available procedures which will permit each faculty member to report achievements annually or on a more frequent basis;
- assure each faculty member the right to discuss one's candidacy with the unit administrator and/or the appropriate unit committee at any time; and
- notify each faculty member within four days of receipt of the administration's call for promotion or advancement in title recommendations.

Upon request by the faculty member, the unit administrator and the unit promotion committee shall evaluate the faculty member for promotion; the unit administrator and the personnel committee

shall evaluate the faculty member for advancement in title. Following such evaluation, the unit administrator and appropriate unit committee shall inform the faculty member of their respective recommendations. Promotion or advancement in title shall be based primarily upon the faculty member's total demonstrated professional competence and achievement. Procedures to be followed for promotion are found in *ECU Faculty Manual*, Part IX. Procedures to be followed for advancement in title should be specified in each code unit in accordance with *ECU Faculty Manual*, Part IX, Section I (II.B.3), (III.) and (IV.); and Part VIII, Section I (I.D.3).

Among the many qualifications which may be considered when making recommendations for promotion, the requirements in Part IX, Section I (I.D.2) above are essential.

Promotion in academic rank should be accompanied by a salary increment which shall be separate from any and all other increments to which the individual may be entitled.

Notwithstanding any previous statement that has appeared herein, competence for promotion to a specific rank may be attested to by advanced study, culminating in appropriate graduate degrees, or by extensive work experience in the teaching fields or in a professional practice which is demonstrably of highest quality.

Advancement in title for fixed-term faculty members should be accompanied by a salary increment which shall be separate from any and all other increments to which the individual may be entitled. Notwithstanding any previous statement that has appeared herein, competence for advancement in title may be attested to by demonstrated excellence in the performance of duties specified in the contract of the fixed-term faculty member and supported by the faculty member's annual performance evaluation.

VII. Salary

A. Initial Salary

Initial salary shall be based on degree attainment, pertinent experience, professional activity, scholarly publication or its equivalent, and level of responsibility, consideration being given to the salaries of personnel presently in the unit and salaries within the discipline in comparable institutions.

B. Determination of Annual Salary Increments

The unit administrator shall recommend annual salary increments to appropriate administrative officials in accordance with requirements imposed by the North Carolina General Assembly, The University of North Carolina Board of Governors, the ECU Board of Trustees, and the university administration, and shall employ any additional criteria that have been established in this appendix, in units codes, or in policies required by unit codes. Basic criteria for assessing merit shall include the degree of teaching excellence; scholarship; service to local, state, and national governments; as well as contributions to the development of public forums, institutes, continuing education projects, and patients' services. The unit administrator shall report annually to the unit, in dollar amounts and percentages, the total increment allotted, mean salary increment, and range in salary increments for the unit. Each faculty member shall be informed by the unit administrator of any salary increment recommendations made on behalf of the faculty member by the unit administrator.

C. Benefits and Salary Increases for Fixed-Term Faculty

Equitability of salary and benefits for fixed-term faculty members should be reviewed annually. When salary increments are provided by the Board of Governors, full-time fixed-term faculty who have completed one year of employment and have received a subsequent new

appointment should be considered for a salary increase based upon their annual evaluation and criteria established by the Board of Governors, ECU Board of Trustees, and the unit code.

Full-time, fixed-term faculty are entitled to the same benefits as all other full-time employees of ECU.

VIII. Faculty Personnel Files

- A. [Article 7 of Chapter 126](#) of the General Statutes of North Carolina shall govern matters relating to personnel files, contents and permissible access. The General Statutes are located in Joyner Library and in the University Attorney's Office. Access to the statutes on the Internet are available at: www.ncga.state.nc.us/Statutes/Statutes.html or www.allaw.com/state_law_search/north_carolina/.

Please note that the statutes reported on the internet may not be accurate and may not be updated in a timely manner to reflect the latest supplements.

For questions regarding personnel files, contact the Faculty Senate Office or the University Attorney's Office.

B. Definition

North Carolina law defines a personnel file as any information gathered by East Carolina University that relates to an individual's employment, which includes information relating to the application, selection, promotion, demotion, transfer, leave, salary, suspension, performance evaluation, disciplinary action, or termination of employment, wherever located and in whatever form. Records related to grievances and appeals of non-reappointment and non-conferral of tenure are personnel records. The Personnel Action Dossier ("PAD") is an evaluative document, is a personnel record, and is part of the faculty member's personnel file. The personnel file is University property and is retained by the University.

Personnel records are kept in accordance with the Records Retention and Disposition Schedule approved by the Chancellor. Timing of storage and transfer vary depending on the specific type of document.

C. Location

All records used in the formal evaluation of faculty must be in the primary personnel file. A faculty member's primary personnel file shall reside in the code unit office under the supervision of the code unit administrator. In addition, there may be other files containing personnel records that are located in approved University offices. The location and custodian of other files containing personnel records will be listed in the Personnel File Checklist attached to the inside cover of the primary personnel file.

Filed grievances; appeals of non-reappointment or non-conferral of tenure; complaints filed by or against a faculty member with the ECU EEO Office alleging sexual harassment, discrimination based on age, race, religion, or disability, or a violation of the amorous relations policy; and records relating to any disciplinary action against a faculty member may be included in an appeal hearing file or in an investigative file prepared by the EEO Office or by the University Attorney's Office.

Personnel records retained in the EEO Office or the University Attorney's Office will remain confidential, but the documents collected and/or created in those offices are considered part of an investigative/preparation file and are not considered part of the primary personnel file. Disclosure of documents in those files is subject to applicable University policies and state laws. Additionally, in accordance with the relevant University policy and state laws, the University will formally notify the faculty member of any complaint or grievance filed against a faculty member and will follow the procedures prescribed for due process. In most cases, personnel documents maintained in those files will be duplicates of documents in the primary personnel file. In all cases, the documents in those files will be available for review by the faculty member.

D. Content

State law requires that the University permit the public to have access to the following employment related information about: name, age, date of original employment or appointment to State service, the terms of any contract by which the employee is employed whether written or oral, past and current, to the extent that the university has the written contract or a record of the oral contract in its possession, current position, title, current salary, date and amount of each increase or decrease in salary, with the university, date and type of each promotion, demotion, transfer, suspension, separation, or other change in position classification with the university, date and general description of the reasons for each promotion with the university, date and type of each dismissal, suspension, or demotion for disciplinary reasons taken by the university. If the disciplinary action was a dismissal, a copy of the written notice of the final decision of the Chancellor setting forth the specific acts or omissions that are the basis of the dismissal, the office to which the employee is currently assigned.

To the extent allowed by applicable law (e.g., [Article 7 of Chapter 126](#) of the General Statutes of North Carolina), all other information contained in the personnel file is confidential and shall not be open for inspection and examination except to the following persons:

- (1) The employee, applicant for employment, former employee, or his properly authorized agent, who may examine his own personnel file in its entirety except for (i) letters of reference solicited prior to employment, or (ii) information concerning a medical disability, mental or physical, that a prudent physician would not divulge to a patient. An employee's medical record may be disclosed to a licensed physician designated in writing by the employee;
- (2) The supervisor of the employee;
- (3) Members of the General Assembly who may inspect and examine personnel records under the authority of G.S. 120-19;
- (4) A party by authority of a proper court order may inspect and examine a particular confidential portion of a State employee's personnel file; and
- (5) An official of an agency of the federal government, State government or any political subdivision thereof. Such an official may inspect any personnel records when such inspection is deemed by the department head of the employee whose record is to be inspected or, in the case of an applicant for employment or a former employee, by the department head of the agency in which the record is maintained as necessary and essential to the pursuance of a proper function of said agency; provided, however, that such information shall not be divulged for purposes of assisting in a criminal prosecution, nor for purposes of assisting in a tax investigation; and

- (6) Any person or corporation to which the Chancellor determines release of such information is essential as allowed by [General Statute §126-24](#).

All evaluative documents will be contained in the primary personnel file. Evaluative materials or summaries thereof prepared by peer committees as part of a regular evaluation system are placed in the primary personnel file when signed by a representative of the committee. In particular, official copies of Personnel Action Dossiers, as outlined in Part X of the ECU Faculty Manual, including documentation submitted by faculty for consideration in the tenure, reappointment and promotion processes, shall reside in the primary personnel file.

No material obtained from an anonymous source shall be placed in the primary personnel file except for data from student opinion surveys. Data from student opinion surveys shall be submitted by the authorized surveying agent to the faculty member and the unit administrator. Administrators shall not keep secret files.

A faculty member who objects to material in the primary personnel file or other personnel records may place in the file a statement relating to the material the faculty member considers to be inaccurate or misleading. This concise statement shall be submitted to the custodian for inclusion as an attachment to the specific document. A faculty member who objects to material in the primary personnel file because it is inaccurate or misleading may seek the removal of such material from the primary personnel file in accordance with Part XII, Section I of the Faculty Manual, including appeal to the State Personnel Commission.

E. Access

The unit administrator is responsible for providing faculty member's access to their personnel file during regular business hours with advance notice to the unit administrator. Advance notice of at least 4 calendar days is required so that the file can be gathered from other offices, if necessary, and so that confidential documents, as specified in D.1 (above), can be removed. The unit administrator must make arrangements to have office staff available to oversee the review process to ensure the integrity and safekeeping of the records and to assist in making copies of the file, if applicable.

Faculty members are encouraged to examine their primary personnel file often, subject to certain restrictions of state law. Faculty members may examine other files containing personnel records subject to the same restrictions. A faculty member may obtain copies of any materials that are not restricted by State law in the personnel.

F. Disclosure of Confidential Information

Willful disclosure of confidential information or unauthorized access to a personnel file by any person violates State law and University regulations and may result in disciplinary action under University regulations. Any person, who knows of these violations but does not act, has neglected his or her duties and may also be disciplined in accordance with University regulations.

IX. Amendment Procedure

Amendment procedures are subject to the University's Regulation on Policies, Rules, and Regulations. The Faculty Senate will consider amendments to *ECU Faculty Manual*, Part VIII, Section I - Personnel Policies and Procedures that are proposed by any full-time member of the

faculty, by any faculty committee, or by any member of the administration of East Carolina University. Amendment(s) submitted to the Faculty Senate for consideration shall be handled as

any other item of legislation which comes before the senate. If the senate approves such a proposed amendment, the senate shall submit the proposed amendment to the chancellor and, if approved by the chancellor, the amendment will be forwarded to the board of trustees for its approval. Consideration by the board of trustees is not required if the chancellor has final authority to enact the amendment.

X. Effective Date

All provisions of these policies and procedures shall become effective on the date they are approved by the East Carolina University Board of Trustees or its designee.

XI. Faculty Personnel File Checklists

FACULTY PERSONNEL FILE CHECKLIST

(Division of Academic Affairs)

Your primary personnel file is located in the office of your Code Unit Administrator and may be reviewed at any time during regular business hours with advance notice to the custodian of records or his/her designee. Advance notice is required so that your files can be gathered from other offices, if necessary, and so that confidential documents, like references for initial employment or certain medical information, as described in the General Statutes of North Carolina, can be removed. The custodian of records will need to make arrangements to have office staff available to oversee the review process to ensure the integrity and safekeeping of the records and to assist in making copies, if you request same. While reasonable efforts will be made to provide you with quick access to your file, it may take some time to make the necessary arrangements. Multiple copies of the same document may be limited.

Please note that you cannot add to or remove documents from your personnel files at the time you review your files. If you have concerns about documents in your files, please bring them to the attention of the custodian of records. You can object to inaccurate or misleading information in your files by putting your objections in a written statement to your Code Unit Administrator, who will add your statement to the file(s) you are concerned about.

Removal of offensive materials may be sought in accordance with the procedures in Part XII, Section I of the *ECU Faculty Manual*.

Location of Records Related to Employment:

- Code Unit Administrator's Office
- Dean's Office
- Academic Department Chair's Office in Professional Schools
- Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs' Office
- Department of Human Resources

Other Files Containing Personnel Records May be Located:

- Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office
- University Attorney's Office
- Faculty Senate Office

Please note that reference letters solicited prior to employment and medical records that a prudent physician would not disclose to his/her patient shall not be disclosed to you and should be kept in a sealed envelope that can be easily removed from your file. Additionally, medical records related to a medical condition or disability should be maintained in a separate envelope. Questions about your personnel records should be directed to the Faculty Senate Office or the University Attorney's Office.

FACULTY PERSONNEL FILE CHECKLIST

(Division of Health Sciences)

Your primary personnel file is located in the office of your Code Unit Administrator and may be reviewed at any time during regular business hours with advance notice to the custodian of records or his/her designee. Advance notice is required so that your files can be gathered from other offices, if necessary, and so that confidential documents, like references for initial employment or certain medical information, as described in the General Statutes of North Carolina, can be removed. The custodian of records will need to make arrangements to have office staff available to oversee the review process to ensure the integrity and safekeeping of the records and to assist in making copies, if you request them. A reasonable number of copies will be provided at no cost to the faculty member. While reasonable efforts will be made to provide you with quick access to your file, it may take some time to make the necessary arrangements.

Please note that you cannot add to or remove documents from your personnel files at the time you review your files. If you have concerns about documents in your files, please bring them to the attention of the custodian of records. You can object to inaccurate or misleading information in your files by putting your objections in a written statement to your Code Unit Administrator, who will add your statement to the file(s) which concern(s) you. Removal of inaccurate or misleading materials may be sought in accordance with the procedures in Part XII, Section I of the *ECU Faculty Manual*.

Location of Records Related to Employment:

- Code Unit Administrator's Office
- Dean's Office
- Academic Department Chair's Office
- Center Administrator's Office (ex. Center for Advancement of Health)
- Department Section Head's Office
- Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Office
- Department of Human Resources

Other Files Containing Personnel Records May be Located:

- Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Office
- University Attorney's Office
- Faculty Senate Office

Additional Records for Physician Faculty - located at Brody SOM and Pitt County Memorial Hospital:

- Medical Faculty Practice Plan Benefits Office
- Managed Care Office
- ECU Physicians Credentialing Office
- PCMH Credentials Verification Office (Medical Staff Support)

This notifies you that certain the Division of Health Sciences or other ECU offices (including, but not limited to, University Attorney, Equal Employment Opportunity, Compliance, BSOM Risk

Management, CME, etc.) may maintain records (including, but not limited to, attendance records for mandatory training sessions, orientation, and CME programs; routine audits of medical records and billing documentation; Quality Assurance; malpractice; etc.) related to your employment and which may constitute personnel records. Should you wish to verify whether such offices maintain records related to your employment, you may contact the specific office for further information regarding your records within the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences.

Please note that reference letters solicited prior to employment and medical records that a prudent physician would not disclose to his/her patient shall not be disclosed to you and should be kept in a sealed envelope that can be easily removed from your file. Additionally, medical records governed by General Statute, if any, would be maintained in a separate envelope. Questions about your personnel records should be directed to the Faculty Senate Office or to the University Attorney's Office.

(FS Resolution #11-94, November 2011)

(FS Resolution #12-76, April 2012)

(FS Resolution #14-04, March 2014)