

Faculty Affairs Committee Report
University Council - 20 March 2024

The Faculty Affairs Committee met four times since our last update on 9 Dec 2022, Jan 23, Feb 28, and April 12 2023. The focus of these meetings has been discussion of changes to promotion and tenure guidelines for various faculty ranks. From these discussions, we have one action item to present to the Council today.

President Morehead, may I move on to action items?

Our only action item is proposed revisions to the Guidelines for Faculty Ranks and Promotion for Librarians and Archivists. The proposed revisions align the guidelines with university-wide norms regarding standard degree requirements by permitting and/or requiring a “terminal degree in a relevant field” for Libraries faculty members. A “terminal degree in a relevant field” is the standard requirement associated with all faculty positions at UGA. However, UGA Libraries has historically specified that the MLS/MLIS degree is the only acceptable terminal degree for UGA Libraries Faculty. The revision seeks to meet campus needs in emerging and rapidly changing areas such as research data management. The proposed amendment will empower UGA Libraries to hire highly qualified faculty without seeking “special exceptions” from the UGA Office of Faculty Affairs.

This concludes the report from Faculty Affairs.