

OSU Department of Physics Guidelines for Faculty Self-Assessment Statements

Faculty under consideration for tenure are required to provide self-assessment statements on instruction, research, and/or extension and public service activities, as appropriate. Within the Department of Physics, most extension and public service activities that have any significant relationship to the tenure decision will be closely related to the instruction and research functions, and faculty within the Department of Physics are requested to include any discussion of public service activities within the self-assessment statements for instruction and scholarship. Guidance from the Provost's Office directs that these statements should include the following information.

Instructional Self-Assessment. This self-assessment should consist of a letter to the department head which gives the candidate's opinion of his/her contributions to the instructional programs of the department and college. It is important to provide more than just a listing of instructional activities. This self-assessment is designed to provide those who must participate in the tenure decision an indication of the candidate's commitment to instructional excellence. This letter should cover undergraduate as well as graduate instruction. Instruction of lower division courses should receive special discussion, and mention should be made of participation in the Honors, Scholar Development, International Education and/or the General Education programs. The assessment should identify any national visibility obtained by the candidate through his/her instructional activities. Examples might be teaching awards, publication of textbooks, implementation of innovative course work, or use of innovative instructional technology. Finally, the candidate should explain any linkages which might exist between the candidate's instruction, research, and service activities. The information provided should be in sufficient detail to allow the department head and others to judge the long-term commitment of the candidate to instructional excellence.

Scholarship and Creative Activity Self-Assessment. Like the instructional self-assessment, the scholarship and creative activity self-assessment should consist of a letter to the department head. In this letter the candidate identifies his/her most significant scholarly contributions relevant to the mission of the University. In the case of scholarly publications, it would be appropriate for the candidate to select from his/her list of publications those articles which have or will have the greatest national and international impact and to describe this impact. Each department head should work with the dean to establish an appropriate number. In the case of other forms of scholarship, such as works of art or significant designs, the candidate should describe his/her most significant contributions. As with publications, the candidate should indicate the national and international impact of his/her work.