Article 14

Promotion Procedure

14.1 Policy.

A. Promotion decisions are not based solely upon an employee's annual performance evaluations. Rather, the University, through its faculty, professional employees, and administrators, assesses the employee's potential for growth and scholarly contribution as well as past meritorious performance.

B. After completing one year of employment, employees eligible for consideration for promotion shall receive, if annually requested, an appraisal regarding their progress toward promotion. The appraisal shall be included as a separate component of the annual evaluation and is intended to provide assistance and counseling to candidates to help them to qualify themselves for promotion. The employee may request, in writing, a meeting with an administrator at the next higher level to discuss concerns regarding the promotion appraisal which were not resolved in previous discussions with the evaluator. The appraisals are not binding upon the University.

14.2 Criteria.

A. Promotion decisions shall be a result of meritorious performance and shall be based upon established criteria specified in writing by the University. These criteria shall be available to all faculty via the University’s website. Colleges and departments/units may publish additional criteria and if so shall make these criteria available to employees via websites or in hard copy. University criteria may be modified so long as the local UFF Chapter has been notified of the proposed changes and offered an opportunity to discuss such changes in consultation with the President or representative. Changes in criteria shall not become effective until one (1) year following adoption of the changes, unless mutually agreed to in writing by the UFF President and the University President. The date of adoption shall be the date on which the changes are approved by the President or representative. Any proposal to develop or modify promotion criteria shall be available for discussion by members of the affected departments/units before adoption.

B. Promotion criteria shall be available in the department/unit office and/or at the college/unit level.

14.3 Procedures.

A. Recommendations for promotion shall begin with the employee's supervisor and shall be submitted to the appropriate officials for review. Prior to the consideration of the employee's promotion, the employee shall have the right and responsibility to review the promotion file and see that it is complete. The employee may attach a brief response to any material therein. The
provisions of Articles 11.2 through 11.8 of this Agreement shall apply to the contents of the promotion file. If any material is added to the file after the commencement of consideration, other than the completion of the evaluation sections (including the recording of votes) of the file by the reviewing bodies/individuals), a copy shall be sent to the employee within five (5) days (by personal delivery or by mail, return receipt requested). The employee may attach a brief response within five (5) days of his/her receipt of the added material. The file shall not be forwarded until either the employee submits a response or until the second five (5) day period expires, whichever occurs first. The employee shall have the right to review the file at each stage of review (i.e., department, college, campus) and attach a brief response to any materials contained therein, including the evaluation section(s), prior to the next stage of review.

B. Recommendations for promotion shall include a copy of applicable promotion criteria, the employee's annual assignments and annual evaluations, and, if the employee chooses, the employee's promotion appraisal(s). The reviewers at any stage in the review may request to view the appraisal(s).

14.4 Notice of Denial. If any employee is denied promotion, the employee shall be notified in writing by the appropriate administrative official, within ten (10) days or as soon as possible thereafter, of that decision. Upon written request by an employee within twenty (20) days of the employee's receipt of such decision, the University shall provide the employee with a written statement of the reasons why the promotion was denied.

14.5 Ranks of Promotion. The ranks of promotion shall consist of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Full Professor, Assistant University Librarian, Associate University Librarian, University Librarian, Instructor I, Instructor II and Instructor III.

14.6 The University and the UFF agree to discuss the possibility of establishing additional ranks of promotion for employees who are on non-tenure earnings appointments.