



Notice of Election Provost's Advisory Committee on Promotion and Tenure

To: Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty
From: Heather Coleman, Chair, University Senate Agenda Committee
Eileen Schell, Co-Chair, University Senate Committee on Appointment and Promotions
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Date: October 17, 2025

On behalf of the University Senate, we would like to inform you of the upcoming election to fill vacant seats on the Provost's Advisory Committee on Promotion and Tenure (Advisory Committee). This year, tenure-line faculty in Electorates 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, and 9 will vote for up to three eligible representatives to serve two-year terms (AY2025-26 and 2026-27).

An election ballot will be sent to tenure-line faculty in the following electorates:

Table 1

Electorate	School/College
1	School of Architecture
3	College of Arts and Sciences - Sciences
4	School of Education
7	School of Information Studies
8	College of Law
9	Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs

The election will open today, **Wednesday, October 17, 2025, and will remain open until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2025**. Only those faculty in electorates with vacancies will vote in the election (See Table 1).

Please take this opportunity to review the following details and history about the Advisory Committee and the election. Also, please review the attached list of tenured professors who are eligible to serve as faculty representatives before casting your ballot.

1. What is the purpose of the Advisory Committee, and how does it work?

In May 2014, the Board of Trustees changed the faculty promotion policies and set an expectation of new directions in our approach to making tenure and promotion decisions. The most important element of the new policy was to make the promotion process consistent with the tenure process, with equivalent paths from the schools and

colleges through the Provost and to the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees. To assist in implementing this new direction, the Advisory Committee, a University-level review and advisory committee, was established.

The Advisory Committee is composed of full professors who assist the Provost in promoting the highest academic standards across the University. The Advisory Committee's advice is intended to balance comparable excellence across the schools and colleges with the need to support the specific excellence of each.

The Advisory Committee will read all candidate files designated by the Office of Academic Affairs to contain substantive disagreements between any layers of recommendation and those files that have the strong possibility of a negative determination. The Advisory Committee members will engage in timely consultation with the Provost and offer an advisory vote but will not issue a formal report or consider appeals.

As needed, the Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs will convene seven members from the pool of twelve elected Advisory Committee members to review individual cases. Those seven members will be selected based on disciplinary closeness with that of the faculty member whose case is under review but will not be a person who has had any prior role in the tenure or promotion review or recommendation relating to that particular case within a department, school or college.

The Advisory Committee is chaired by the Provost and includes the Vice President for Research (or another full professor designee of the Provost) and the Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs, the latter of whom serves as convener of the Advisory Committee.

2. What is the composition of the electorates?

Each of the schools and colleges¹ elects a representative who will be eligible to be called upon by the Provost to review individual cases. Each representative will serve for a period of two years.

Any Advisory Committee member serving out the remainder of a previously serving Advisory Committee member's term will continue to represent their respective school or college electorate until the original term is concluded. Electorates with a vacancy will receive a ballot to cast a vote.

3. Who is eligible to vote in the election for representatives to the Advisory Committee?

All tenured and tenure-track Syracuse University faculty members are eligible to vote for Advisory Committee representatives within their electorate.

4. Who is eligible to serve on the Advisory Committee?

Tenured full professors are eligible to serve on the Advisory Committee, as members must be eligible within their respective school or college to vote on all promotion and tenure cases, including those cases for promotion to full professor. In cases where a faculty member serves on a school or college committee, that faculty member must

¹ Faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences comprise two electorates—one in the humanities and one in the sciences. The College of Professional Studies does not have a representative.

recuse themselves from the deliberations of the Advisory Committee in cases in which they have had a prior role. While all members of the Advisory Committee must be tenured full professors, there is no requirement of prior or current service on a school or college promotion and tenure committee. Advisory Committee members will not be eligible to serve two consecutive terms. Additionally, faculty in administrative roles may not be eligible to appear on the ballot, depending on their promotion and tenure responsibilities such as deans, (senior) associate deans, vice deans, associate provosts, vice presidents, the Provost and the Chancellor.

5. Who served in the 2024-2025 academic year?

Advisory Committee members are not eligible to serve two consecutive terms. Thus, committee members whose terms concluded in May 2025 may not serve in AY2025-2026 and their names will not appear on the ballot.

Table 2

Electorate	School/College	Representative	Term End
1	Architecture	Lori Brown	May 2025
2	Arts and Sciences—Humanities	Dymphna Callaghan	May 2026
3	Arts and Sciences—Sciences	Zunli Lu	May 2025
4	Education	Beth Ferri	May 2025
5	Engineering	Qinru Qiu	May 2026
6	Falk	Merril Silverstein	May 2026
7	iSchool	Kevin Crowston	May 2025
8	Law	Todd Berger	May 2025
9	Maxwell	Brian Taylor	May 2025
10	Newhouse	Aileen Gallagher	May 2026
11	Whitman	Natarajan Balasubramanian	May 2026
12	Visual and Performing Arts	Emily Stokes-Rees	May 2026
--	Vice Chancellor, Provost, and Chief Academic Officer	Lois Agnew, Chair	--
--	Vice President for Research	Duncan Brown	--
--	Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs	Jamie Winders, Convener	--

6. Who served in the 2023-2024 academic year?

Table 3

Electorate	School/College	Representative	Term End
1	Architecture	Lori Brown	May 2025
2	Arts and Sciences—Humanities	Gail Bulman*	May 2024
3	Arts and Sciences—Sciences	Zunli Lu	May 2025
4	Education	Beth Ferri	May 2025
5	Engineering	Chilukuri Mohan	May 2024
6	Falk	Katherine McDonald	May 2024
7	iSchool	Kevin Crowston	May 2025
8	Law	Todd Berger	May 2025
9	Maxwell	Brian Taylor	May 2025
10	Newhouse	Anne Osborne	May 2024
11	Whitman	Amber Anand	May 2024
12	Visual and Performing Arts	Kendall Phillips	May 2024
--	Vice Chancellor, Provost, and Chief Academic Officer	Gretchen Ritter, Chair	--
--	Vice President for Research	Duncan Brown	--
--	Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs	Jamie Winders, Convener	--

*Elected to serve one-year term (AY2023-24).

7. What is the process for voting?

The University Senate Committee on Appointment and Promotions and the Senate Agenda Committee will administer the election for the Advisory Committee. All eligible faculty members will receive an email containing a link to an electronic ballot. All tenured and tenure-track faculty have been assigned to an electorate and will vote for three representatives from their respective electorate. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness will tabulate the ballots and provide the results to the Senate Committee on Appointment and Promotions.

8. What is the timeline for the election process?

An email containing the ballot election link will be sent to voting faculty on Friday, October 17, 2025. Voting will begin on Friday, October 17, 2025, and will remain open until Friday, October 31, 2025.

9. Why is the election in the Fall semester? Didn't we used to do this in January?

Holding the election in the Fall term distinguishes it from the selection process for the Provost's Faculty Salary Advisory Committee, which is seated in the spring term for service in the following academic year.

10. What is the process for selecting the representatives?

After the election closes, the chairperson(s) of the University Senate Committee on Appointment and Promotions or their delegate will contact the top vote-getters in each electorate and will present a slate of three from each electorate to the Provost. The Provost will select candidates from the slate for Advisory Committee membership.

11. I have a joint appointment. In which electorate will I vote?

Any tenured or tenure-track faculty with joint appointment will vote in the electorate of their primary faculty appointment. *Any faculty member with such an appointment who would prefer assignment to the electorate of their secondary faculty appointment should contact us at susenate@syr.edu.* No faculty member is eligible to vote more than once or in more than one electorate.

12. Whom should I contact with questions?

If you have any technical questions about voting, please email help@syr.edu or call 315-443-2677.

For all other questions, please contact susenate@syr.edu.