Faculty Handbook: Nonreappointment, Termination, Suspension, Dismissal and Resignation

Please note: A comprehensive review of all Regent Laws and Policies is currently underway. Faculty Handbook references to Law and Policy and related Administrative Policy Statements have not yet been updated to reflect recent changes. For the most recent information, please visit https://www.cu.edu/regents/laws-and-policies or https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps.

I. Termination, Dismissal for Cause, Nonreappointment, and Denial of Promotion or Award of Tenure

A. Dismissal for Cause, and Termination

The Laws of the Regents establish a provision for the dismissal of faculty members on the grounds of demonstrable profession incompetence, neglect of duty, insubordination, conviction of a felony, or any offense involving moral turpitude upon a plea or a verdict of guilty or following a plea of nolo contendere, or sexual harrassment, or other conduct which falls below minimum standards of profession integrity. The Laws of the Regents include provisions for notification to the faculty member and referral to the Committee on Privilege and Tenure.

- LOR: Dismissal (Subsection 5.C, Laws of the Regents)
- LOR: Dismissal for Cause Provisions (Subsection 5.C.2, Laws of the Regents)
- LOR: Faculty Senate Grievance Process (Subsection 5.C.3, Laws of the Regents)

B. AAUP Statement on Termination and Dismissal

The Board of Regents adopted sections of AAUP's "1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure" referring to tenure of faculty members. Effective October, 1984, all testimony presented at hearings shall be recorded on tape. See "Panel Procedures for Processing Cases - - University Committee on Privilege and Tenure."

- Promotion and Tenure Grievance Procedure: Bylaws of the Faculty Senate, II.D.1.e.1(b)
C. Nonreappointment, Denial of Promotion or Tenure

The Laws of the Regents establish provisions for grievances and the role of the Committee on Privilege and Tenure. Prerogatives for review by the Senate Committee on Privilege and Tenure are contained in the Standards, Processes and Procedures Document.


II. Termination for Reasons of Program Discontinuance

A. General Policy

The Regents established provisions for termination of faculty for the reasons of program discontinuance.

- APS: Implementing Program Discontinuance [7]

Policies for program discontinuance are set forth in Administrative Policy Statement "Implementing Program Discontinuance." Regent policy, "Program Discontinuance," forms the basis for the APS. The Laws of the Regents establish provisions for termination of faculty for the reasons of program discontinuance.

- APS: Implementing Program Discontinuance [7]
- Regent Policy: Program Discontinuance (4-H) [8]
- LOR: Terms of Appointment (Subsection 5.B.2(A), Laws of the Regents) [4]

III. Termination of Non-Tenure-track Faculty Who are Employees-At-Will

The appointment of a faculty member who is an employee-at-will is terminable by either the faculty member or the University at any time. Employee-at-will provisions apply to all faculty except tenured, tenure-track and specialty track faculty members whose primary job assignment is clinical care. (For a related discussion of tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty and non-tenure-track faculty see Part Three, Section I.)

State law requires that any employment contract for an at-will employee must contain terms that clearly state the at-will nature of the employment and that describe other provisions of the statute as they may be amended from time to time.
- CRS: Terms of Employment Contracts - Public Inspection (CRS §24-19-104); [9]
- Exceptions (CRS §24-19-108) [9]

Groups audience:
Office of Academic Affairs

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Faculty Handbook

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