I. INTRODUCTION

The university encourages and supports public service among its faculty. The policy establishes rules to ensure that tenured faculty are provided the opportunity to serve in elected office and provisions for non-tenured faculty who wish to serve.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

A. As a private citizen, a faculty member may engage in political activities, including campaigning for elected office or serving in elected office. The university shall not restrict such activity provided it does not interfere with the faculty member’s responsibilities to the university. Potential conflicts of interest or commitment shall be addressed in accordance with APS 5012: Conflicts of Interest and Commitment in Teaching and Research.

B. If a tenured faculty member is elected to a paid position that requires a full-time time commitment, a leave without pay shall be requested by the faculty member and shall be granted by the university. If full-time service is required for only a specific period of time, a leave without pay shall be requested and shall be granted for the period of full-time service.

1. Mandatory approval of leave without pay shall only apply to the first term of office. Leave for subsequent terms may be negotiated with the dean of the faculty member’s school or college, but is not guaranteed.

C. Non-tenured faculty may request leave to serve in elected office; however, leave is not guaranteed. The tenure probationary period for tenure-track faculty shall only be extended if leave is granted and an extended probationary period is explicitly approved as part of that agreement.
D. A faculty member should contact Employee Services for information on the impact of a leave without pay or reduction in time (partial leave) on benefits eligibility.

III. HISTORY

- Approved July 1, 2020 (Pending); Replaces Regent Policy 5.F, rescinded July 1, 2020 (Pending).