

Supplemental information on input invited from students in cases of promotion to tenured associate professor

Invitations to students to provide letters on the candidate's teaching and mentoring include the following language:

The decision as to whether a faculty member at Dartmouth College should or should not be granted tenure is of very great importance to the future of the college. It is our stated policy that tenure should be granted only to outstanding scholars and teachers.

At this time Professor XX of the YY Department will be considered for tenure. I hope that you will help us reach a wise and fair decision by writing a letter in confidence describing and evaluating Professor XX's qualities as a teacher.

Your letter will be shared with the President and the Committee Advisory to the President, which consists of six senior professors and the Dean of the Faculty. It will also be read by the senior members of Professor XX's department or program. The name of the author will be expunged and no copy will be distributed with any identifying information. ***We will treat your letter in confidence and request that you do the same.***

Overall teaching effectiveness is a combination of many factors. Most important is stimulating the student to think and to learn the material of the course. The effective teacher should possess mastery of the subject matter, skill in organization and clarity of presentation of the material, ability to stimulate student interest, concern for and accessibility to students, and skill in evoking and guiding class participation. Different students may be impressed differently by one or another of these factors, depending on the student, course, and the instructor. For example, a course in acting or dance would very likely be judged on different factors from one in chemistry or government.

We would like you to evaluate Professor XX by those criteria that seem useful and appropriate to you. Whatever criteria you apply, it would help us if you would very briefly state them. In addition, we would like you to summarize your evaluation by assigning a rating to express your global impression of Professor XX's effectiveness, on a scale from 1 to 9, where 9 represents outstandingly effective teaching and 1 represents extremely poor teaching. This ranking will help the Committee Advisory to the President calibrate your response.

The appraisals provided by students and recent graduates who have taken courses with the individual faculty member play an important part in the evaluation process. On behalf of the College, I want to thank you in advance for contributing to the well-being of future Dartmouth students.

To submit your evaluation, please login ...