

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

September 16, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the University Committee on Faculty Tenure

FROM: Teresa Mastin, Ph.D., Vice Provost and Associate Vice President for the Office for Faculty & Academic Staff Affairs

SUBJECT: Background Materials

The first meeting of the spring semester for the University Committee on Faculty Tenure (UCFT) will be Wednesday, September 18, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Zoom. A draft agenda and meeting materials for the January 16th meeting will be sent by the Office for Academic Governance.

The Committee meets once a month; the meeting dates for the year can be found here: <https://acadgov.msu.edu/UCFT> It will include the Committee roster, meeting dates, agendas, and minutes.

As we start the year, I thought it would be helpful to call to your attention the following materials, which will provide committee members with a common perspective on tenure and related issues:



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1. Composition and charge of the University Committee on Faculty Tenure as referenced in the Section 4.7 of the [Bylaws for Academic Governance](#)
2. [Tenure policy](#) at Michigan State University as contained in the Faculty Handbook, including [Operating Principles](#), [Extending the Reappointment/Promotion/Tenure Review Timeline \(Extending the Tenure Clock\)](#) and [Principles of Faculty Reassignment](#)
3. [Discipline and Dismissal of Tenured Faculty for Cause](#)
4. [Interpretation of the Term "Incompetence"](#) by the University Committee on Faculty Tenure
5. [Interpretation of the Bylaws for Academic Governance](#) related to student participation on UCFT (section 1.2.3) and attached.

I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Cc: Sue Barman, Kara Yermak, Victoria Nelson