University of South Alabama

JagWorks@USA

University Policy Changes

Faculty Senate Resolutions

2010

Resolution for Proposed Policy Change Governing Initial Faculty Appointments for Individuals Terminally Qualified with a Master's Degree

Faculty Senators

RE: "Proposed Policy Change Governing Initial Faculty Appointments for Individuals Terminally Qualified with a Master's Degree":

*Current policy specified in the USA faculty handbook requires that individuals who hold a terminal degree that is a master's, such as M.F.A. in Dramatic Arts, Visual Arts, and Creating Writing, **and M.L.S. in the Library**, to serve three years at the Instructor level prior to being eligible for appointment to Assistant Professor. We propose allowing individuals with recognized terminal degrees in respective fields be appointed at the Assistant Professor level.*

This is a proposal whereby the objective of the Faculty Senate and libraries faculty can be achieved with respect to the proposed policy change in Section 3.2 of the Faculty Handbook. The section on Librarian Ranking (3.4) will need to be changed to achieve equivalency in rank and to bring it into compliance with the rank structure used throughout Academic Affairs, including the art and theatre departments. Therefore, the rank of "Senior Instructor Librarian" should be included in Section 3.4 as the equivalent of Senior Instructor; this rank is defined in Section 3.14.2 of the Faculty Handbook. All other librarian ranks should remain the same. Individuals with recognized terminal degrees in library science could be appointed at the Assistant Librarian level. The new rank structure in the library would also permit appointments at the Instructor rank. Instructor Librarians subsequently would be eligible for promotion to the rank of Senior Instructor Librarian.

If the proposal is adopted, several sections of the Faculty Handbook will require new wording which will completed by the 2010 academic year.