The UNC Policy Manual

The Code 100.1

CHAPTER VI- ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND TENURE

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## SECTION 603. DUE PROCESS BEFORE DISCHARGE OR THE IMPOSITION OF SERIOUS SANCTIONS.

- (1) A faculty member who is the beneficiary of institutional guarantees of tenure shall enjoy protection against unjust and arbitrary application of disciplinary penalties. During the period of such guarantees the faculty member may be discharged from employment, suspended without pay, or demoted in rank for reasons of:
  - (a) Incompetence, including significant, sustained unsatisfactory performance after the faculty member has been given an opportunity to remedy such performance and fails to do so within a reasonable time;
  - (b) Neglect of duty, including sustained failure to meet assigned classes or to perform other significant faculty professional obligations; or
  - (c) Misconduct of such a nature as to indicate that the individual is unfit to continue as a member of the faculty, including violations of professional ethics, mistreatment of students or other employees, research misconduct, financial fraud, criminal, or other illegal, inappropriate or unethical conduct. To justify serious disciplinary action, such misconduct should be either (i) sufficiently related to a faculty member's academic responsibilities as to disqualify the individual from effective performance of university duties, or (ii) sufficiently serious as to adversely reflect on the individual's honesty, trustworthiness or fitness to be a faculty member.

These sanctions may be imposed only in accordance with the procedures prescribed in this section. For <u>purposes-impositions of serious sanctions under of</u> this <u>Code section</u>, a faculty member serving a stated term shall be regarded as having tenure until the end of that term. These procedures shall not apply to nonreappointment (Section 604) or termination of employment (Section 605).

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## SECTION 610. RIGHTS OF SPECIAL FACULTY MEMBERS

- (1) Faculty members who are appointed as visiting faculty members, adjunct faculty, lecturers, artists-in-residence, writers-in-residence or other special categories are regarded as "special faculty members" for purposes of the University Code. Special faculty members may be paid or unpaid.
- (2) Special faculty members who are paid shall be appointed for a specified term of service, as set out in writing in the letter of appointment. The term of appointment of any paid special faculty member concludes at the end of the specified period set forth in the letter of appointment, and the letter of appointment constitutes full and timely notice that a new term will not be granted when that term expires. The continued employment of a special faculty member during the term of appointment may be made expressly contingent on items such as the continued

availability of funding from any source, on enrollment levels, or any other contingency established by the institution, in which case the appointment letter must state such contingency.

- (3) Special faculty members who are not paid may be appointed for a specified term of service or at will. Their pay and appointment status should be set out in the letter of appointment.
- (4) During the term of their employment, special faculty members are entitled to seek recourse under Section 607 of the University Code (relating to faculty grievances).
- (5) Special faculty members, whether paid or unpaid, are not covered by Section 604 of the University Code, and that section does not accord them rights to additional review of a decision by a constituent institution not to grant a new appointment at the end of a specified fixed term.