

Teaching Materials for Tenure and Promotion in the Dietrich School

September 2018

Although teaching excellence is central to the mission of the Dietrich School, the teaching dossiers submitted in T/TS promotion and tenure cases often are insufficient to allow ad hoc committees of the Dietrich School to fully evaluate the quality of the candidate's teaching.

The Dietrich School Council and department chairs and program directors have discussed this concern and suggested that departments could strengthen the teaching dossiers of T/TS candidates for promotion and tenure by including material such as:

From the candidate:

- Professional development in pedagogy;
- Teaching philosophy;
- Efforts to improve teaching, and results;
- Translation of research/scholarship into course content and pedagogy;
- Out-of-the-classroom teaching and student mentoring;
- Pedagogical teaching or mentoring provided to faculty colleagues;
- Full set of all available OMETs for the time period under consideration.

From the department:

- Results of a focus group of students from a candidate's course(s), with the focus group organized and facilitated by someone other than the candidate or department;
- Information on student learning in the candidate's class(es);
- Rigorous peer evaluations of teaching that include peer review of syllabi and course material and, if appropriate, a classroom visit. It may be useful to have senior/junior faculty pairs or members of an appointed committee conduct these peer reviews.

Please note that the Center for Teaching and Learning may be helpful in identifying best practices for improving and evaluating teaching in your discipline. <https://teaching.pitt.edu/>