

Resolution to Pause the Tenure Clock for Junior Faculty Interrupted by the Corona Virus

The Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Policy Committee

March 30, 2020

Whereas The novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 and the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic it has spawned has created extraordinary and unprecedented obstacles to the continuation of faculty research, scholarship, and education; and

Whereas Faculty have been asked to develop entirely new modes of instruction in record time, often while caring for young children or other family members whose schools and daycares are closed or who may be ill; and

Whereas Research labs, libraries, and archives are shuttered, interrupting research programs; and

Whereas These circumstances are of particular concern for faculty working toward tenure and/or promotion; and

Whereas To date, over 100 campuses, including Yale, Ohio State, University of Michigan, and UCLA, recognizing the need to support their faculty during these challenging times, have instituted an extension of the tenure clock for all faculty who desire it; and

Whereas Current Stony Brook and SUNY policies do not provide an avenue for faculty to be granted an extension of the tenure clock without incurring either financial or professional penalties, aside from taking parental leave or moving to a qualified academic rank,

Therefore be it Resolved That an extraordinary one year extension of the tenure track be automatically extended to all current junior faculty who are scheduled to be notified of their permanent appointment on or later that 1 September 2021.

Be it Further Resolved That faculty impacted by this extension may opt out and choose to remain on their original schedule.

The text of this resolution has been liberally excerpted from the draft proposal dated 27 March 2020 by the Academic Affairs Action Group as part of the Provost Emergency Academic Affairs Task Force