ARTICLE 15. ACADEMIC CLASSIFICATION, CATEGORY, AND RANK

Section 1. The University shall assign each bargaining unit faculty member a classification, category, and rank within the category, defined in Sections 2, 3 and 4 of this Article, that most closely reflect the duties described in his or her contract and job description.

Section 1-2. CLASSIFICATION
The following are the classifications that apply to faculty bargaining unit positions. A classification identifies the type and length of a position.

a. TENURE-TRACK AND TENURED: A paid position wherein an individual is designated by the University in writing as eligible for tenure or has been granted tenure in writing by the Provost.

b. ACTING: A tenure-track paid position for individuals intended by the University to become tenure-track assistant professors but who have yet to complete the terminal degree.

c. CAREER: A non-tenure track paid position that is ongoing.

d. VISITING: A non-tenure track paid temporary position of limited duration (up to two years) for an individual who holds a like, similar, or relevant appointment at another institution or:
   a. pursuant to norms of the specific discipline, an individual who has recently obtained a terminal degree and is seeking further professional experience prior to seeking a professorship, or
   b. an appointment for an individual that is intermittent or of limited duration.

e. ADJUNCT: A non-tenure track paid appointment that is intermittent or of limited duration except as provided in Article 16, Section 13.

f. POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR: A non-tenure track paid, mentored research, instructional, librarian, or combined position that is of limited duration (up to three years) for individuals who have earned a doctoral degree.

g. RETIRED: A non-tenure track paid appointment post-retirement. A bargaining unit faculty member is considered to be retired if he or she resigns or is terminated without cause from employment with the university or enters into a tenure reduction or relinquishment agreement and is:
   i. eligible for unreduced or reduced benefits under the Public Employees Retirement System (for participants in PERS) or the Oregon Public Service Retirement Program (for participants in OPSRP);
   ii. eligible under Internal Revenue Service rules to withdraw funds from an account established under Optional Retirement Plan and meets the requirements for unreduced or reduced benefits under, depending on date of hire, PERS Tier 1 or 2.
or the OPSRP. This classification includes the post-retired or emeritus faculty described in Article 1, Recognition.

Section 23. CATEGORY

The following are the categories that apply to bargaining unit faculty members positions. A category describes a rank or group of ranks.

a. PROFESSOR This series category can only be used in the Tenure Track or Tenured, Acting, Visiting, or Retired classifications. This series category requires paid appointment with duties in all three areas of independent research, scholarship, and/or creative inquiry; instruction; and service.

b. CLINICAL PROFESSOR: This series can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct or Retired classifications. This series requires a non-tenure track paid appointment for individuals with primary duties in the area of clinical instruction or research.

c. PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE: This rank category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct, or Retired classifications. This series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment with primary duties in the area of research or instruction. This category is to be held by eminently qualified professionals who have had a major impact on fields and disciplines important to University of Oregon programs. A Professor of Practice will:

• have a substantial basis of experience equal to a tenured professor (normally a minimum of 12 years) and a national/international reputation for excellence reflected in a record of significant accomplishments;

• have a profile of accumulated professional accomplishments fully congruent with the rank of professor;

• have a rich and extensive background in a field and discipline relevant to the school, college, or unit of appointment at the University of Oregon;

• and serve as a liaison between the professional field and the University of Oregon, in identifying teaching and research opportunities that support the public interest and societal needs.

d. INSTRUCTOR: This series category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct or Retired classifications. This series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment with primary duties in the area of undergraduate instruction. Instructor duties may include advising and mentoring expectations responsibilities as well as congruent with undergraduate instruction, including the possibility of involvement in design and development of courses and the curriculum.

e. LECTURER: This series category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct or Retired classifications. This series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment
with primary duties in the area of graduate instruction and education. The duties may also include some undergraduate instruction and mentoring and advising responsibilities, as well as the possibility of involvement in design and development of courses and the curriculum. Appointments in the lecturer series category require the terminal degree (or its professional equivalent) relevant to the appointment, but holding a terminal degree does not by itself entitle a bargaining unit faculty member to appointment in the lecturer series category.

f. LIBRARIAN: This series category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct, or Retired classifications. This rank series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment with primary duties in the university libraries. Appointments in the librarian series category require a terminal professional degree, but holding a terminal degree does not by itself entitle a bargaining unit faculty member to appointment in the librarian series category.

g. RESEARCH ASSISTANT: This series category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct or Retired classifications. This series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment for individuals who have typically earned a bachelor’s or master’s degree. Primary duties are in the area of research. Research assistants typically work as members of a research team under the direct supervision of other faculty researchers.

h. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE: This series category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct or Retired classifications. This series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment for individuals who have the terminal degree relevant to the appointment. Primary duties are in the area of research, which are typically undertaken as part of a research team or lab. Appointments in the research associate series category require the a terminal degree (or its professional equivalent) in a relevant field, but holding a terminal degree does not by itself entitle a bargaining unit faculty member to appointment in the research associate category.

i. RESEARCH PROFESSOR: This series category can only be used in the Visiting, Career, Adjunct or Retired classifications. This series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment with duties solely primarily in the area of independent research, scholarship and/or creative inquiry. Appointments in the research professor series category require a terminal degree relevant to the appointment. Primary duties are independent lines of inquiry, which can be related to the work of colleagues but not dependent on it. A research professor will have qualifications and research expectations equal to or exceeding those for a tenure-track/tenured professor at the same rank in related fields.

j. POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR: This category can only be used in the Postdoctoral Scholar classification. This series category requires a non-tenure track paid appointment for a temporary and defined period of formally mentored research, instruction, librarianship, or scholarly training, for the purpose of allowing the post-doctoral scholar to acquire the professional skills needed to pursue a career path of his or her choosing. The appointment requires a doctoral degree. At the time of appointment, hiring
documentation should include an articulated program of mentoring with an identified mentor.

Section 3-4. RANK

The following are the ranks within categories that apply to bargaining unit faculty members. Ranks define the level of promotion within a category.

a. PROFESSOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant professor, associate professor, and professor.

b. CLINICAL PROFESSOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant clinical professor, associate clinical professor, and clinical professor.

c. PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE: The only rank in this category is professor of practice.

d. INSTRUCTOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are instructor, senior instructor I, senior instructor II.

e. LECTURER: Ranks in this category in ascending order are lecturer, senior lecturer I, senior lecturer II.

f. LIBRARIAN: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant librarian, associate librarian, and senior librarian.

g. RESEARCH ASSISTANT: Ranks in this category in ascending order are research assistant, senior research assistant I, senior research assistant II.

h. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE: Ranks in this category in ascending order are research associate, senior research associate I, senior research associate II.

i. RESEARCH PROFESSOR: Ranks in this category in ascending order are assistant research professor, associate research professor, and research professor.

j. POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR: The only rank in this category is Postdoctoral Scholar.

Section 4. The University shall assign each bargaining unit position a classification, category, and rank that most closely reflect the duties described in the job posting. Except in rare cases, the position’s classification, category, and rank shall be listed in the job posting.

Section 5. At the time of hire, the University shall assign each bargaining unit faculty member a rank within the classification and category described in the job posting.

Nothing shall preclude a bargaining unit faculty member from being assigned and performing other duties not described in his or her specific classification, category, or rank as long as those duties are consistent with his or her job description.
Section 5. If the University terminates a position in the Career classification for economic or programmatic reasons, then the position cannot be refilled in the Visiting or Postdoctoral Scholar classification within three years.

Section 7.6. The duration of a position in the Visiting Adjunct classification shall be no more than three years. If the University decides to continue a position in the Visiting Adjunct classification for longer than three years, the position must be converted to a Career position. In rare cases, a department or unit may petition the Provost to continue a position in the Visiting Adjunct classification for longer than three years for legitimate pedagogical or legitimate programmatic reasons. Permission to continue a position in the Visiting Adjunct classification for longer than three years must be granted by the Provost or designee in writing.

Section 8.7. The duration of a position in the Postdoctoral Scholar classification shall be no more than three years. Postdoctoral mentors, however, may petition the Provost or designee for an extension of no more than two years. Permission to continue a position in the Postdoctoral Scholar classification for longer than three years must be granted by the Provost or designee in writing.

Section 9.8. The Provost will notify the Union each time he or she grants permission to extend a position in the Visiting Adjunct or Postdoctoral Scholar classification beyond three years.

Section 10.8. Bargaining unit faculty members in the Career classification shall have the right to petition the Provost or designee to have their position reassigned recategorized to a different series category if they believe that their position was misassigned categorized incorrectly at the time of first hire or their position has evolved to more closely resemble a different series category. If a petition for reassignment recategorization is denied, a bargaining unit faculty member may petition again after completion of at least one additional year of service in the position.

When a position is reassigned recategorized through this process, the bargaining unit faculty member will be assigned a new rank equivalent to their rank in the former series category.

Section 11.9. Bargaining unit faculty members in the Adjunct or Visiting or Postdoctoral Scholar classification who believe that their positions should be positions in the “Career” appointments classification may petition for reclassification after the completion of two years of appointment. Because the defining characteristic of the Adjunct and Visiting Postdoctoral Scholar classifications is their limited duration, the decision of the Provost or designee should be guided by the current and anticipated duration of the position, and the completion of successful review(s). Reclassification does not require a national search.

Section 10. When a position is reclassified from a Non-tenure track classification into the Tenure Track and Tenured classification, a new national search is always required to fill the position. For other classifications, the Provost or designee may, at their sole discretion, waive a national search when the original search was national in scope and when the incumbent has had successful reviews.
Section 12-11. A reclassification or reassignment shall take effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year, contract renewal, or academic year, or other date as approved by the Provost or designee.

Section 13-12. A change in rank within a category requires a promotion.