

Article ___: Sabbatical

Section 1. Sabbatical leaves are a privilege extended by Oregon Tech for the purpose of strengthening the academic programs of the University while also contributing to the professional development of the tenured bargaining unit member in scholarship, creative activity, ~~and~~ teaching, and leadership. A tenured bargaining unit member must demonstrate they are capable of using the sabbatical period in a manner which will thereafter increase the member's effectiveness and contributions to the University. The Provost, or designee, shall have the sole discretion to approve applications for sabbatical leave.

Section 2. Eligibility. A tenured bargaining unit member may be considered for sabbatical leave under the following circumstances:

(a) After having been continuously appointed without interruption by a sabbatical leave or authorized protected leave of absence for at least eighteen (18) academic terms (excluding Summer Session) or, in the case of 12-month faculty, at least seventy-two (72) months; or

(b) After having accumulated the equivalent of six (6) full-time years of employment over an indefinite period of 9-month or 12-month appointments, uninterrupted by a sabbatical leave or protected leave of absence.

An authorized ~~military, medical, or family~~ protected leave of absence will not prejudice the tenured bargaining unit member's eligibility for sabbatical leave. Tenured bargaining unit members may be considered for subsequent sabbatical leaves after again satisfying the conditions specified in Section 2(a) or (b) above.

Section 3. Application for Sabbatical. Tenured bargaining unit members who meet the sabbatical eligibility standard in Section 2, above, shall complete the official application form available on the Provost's website, attach a current curriculum vitae, and submit the application to their Department Chair, or appropriate administrative officer. In applying for sabbatical leave, a tenured bargaining unit member shall also sign an agreement to return to the University for a period of at least one year on completion of the sabbatical leave or repay the salary provided pursuant to Section 5, below.

Section 4. Decision. The Department Chair or appropriate administrative officer, in consultation with the Dean, shall discuss a plan to cover the duties of the bargaining unit members during the term of the requested sabbatical. If a plan is developed after such consultation, it shall be submitted to the Provost, along with the application for sabbatical leave, for final decision. If a plan is unable to be developed, the application shall not be

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forwarded to the Provost's office for further review. Approval of sabbatical leave proposals and the number of sabbatical leaves authorized shall be the sole discretion of the Provost and the number of sabbatical leaves authorized. In cases where it is necessary to choose between several applications for sabbatical leave from the same department or unit, preference shall not be given based on seniority or rank but instead on the merit of the application.

Once the term of the sabbatical leave is approved, such shall not be changed unless extenuating circumstances are presented in writing to the Provost at least one (1) full term prior to the requested date of return from the current sabbatical leave. If the Provost determines that extenuating circumstances exist to return the tenured bargaining unit member from their sabbatical leave

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