



**a place of mind**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**EXCERPT FROM THE 2014-2016 AGREEMENT ON CONDITIONS  
OF APPOINTMENT FOR FACULTY**

The University of British Columbia and the Faculty Association of The University of British Columbia have agreed on the following conditions of appointment for faculty members at The University of British Columbia.

**Article 1. Interpretation**

1.01 For the purpose of this Agreement:

...

"Scholarly activity" means research of quality and significance, or, in appropriate fields, distinguished, creative or professional work of a scholarly nature; and the dissemination of the results of that scholarly activity.

....

---

**Article 3. Titles and Ranks**

....

**3.08 Professor**

- a) Appointment at or promotion to the rank of Professor is reserved for those whose contributions (judged by the criteria as set out in Article 4) are considered outstanding.
- b) These persons will have met appropriate standards of excellence and have wide recognition in the field of their interest. They must have shown high quality in teaching and sustained and productive scholarly activity, have attained distinction in their discipline, and have participated significantly in academic and professional affairs. Promotion to this rank is not automatic nor based on years of service and it is expected that some persons will not attain this rank.
- c) Initial appointments at this rank may be term appointments or tenured appointments. Renewal of a term appointments will normally be made without term.



**a place of mind**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Article 4. Criteria for Appointment, Reappointment, Tenure and Promotion**

**4.01**

- a) Candidates for appointment, reappointment, tenure or promotion, other than those dealt with in paragraph (b), are judged principally on performance in both teaching and in scholarly activity. Service to the academic profession, to the University, and to the community will be taken into account but, while service to the University and the community is important, it cannot compensate for deficiencies in teaching and in scholarly activity. Competence is required both in teaching and in scholarly activity, provided that a candidate who does not meet the criterion of scholarly activity but who is judged to be an excellent teacher may be given a tenured appointment as Senior Instructor when, in the view of the University, its needs will be best served by that appointment. Appointments without term are granted to individuals who have maintained a high standard of performance in meeting the criteria set forth below and show promise of continuing to do so.
- b) ...
- c) Judgments of an individual should be made objectively.
- d) The decision to grant a tenured appointment shall take into account the interests of the Department and the University in maintaining academic strength and balance but no person holding a term appointment with review shall be denied reappointment or a tenured appointment on the ground that the University has established quotas in a Department or Faculty for those holding a tenured appointment.
- e) ...

**4.02 Teaching**

Teaching includes all presentation whether through lectures, seminars and tutorials, individual and group discussion, supervision of individual students' work, or other means by which students, whether in degree or non-degree programs sponsored by the University, derive educational benefit. An individual's entire teaching contribution shall be assessed. Evaluation of teaching shall be based on the effectiveness rather than the popularity of the instructor, as indicated by command over subject matter, familiarity with recent developments in the field, preparedness, presentation, accessibility to students and influence on the intellectual and



**a place of mind**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

scholarly development of students. The methods of teaching evaluation may vary; they may include student opinion, assessment by colleagues of performance in university lectures, outside references concerning teaching at other institutions, course material and examinations, the calibre of supervised essays and theses, and other relevant considerations. When the opinions of students or of colleagues are sought, this shall be done through formal procedures. Consideration shall be given to the ability and willingness of the candidate to teach a range of subject matter and at various levels of instruction.

#### **4.03 Scholarly Activity**

Judgment of scholarly activity is based mainly on the quality and significance of an individual's contribution. Evidence of scholarly activity varies among the disciplines. Published work is, where appropriate, the primary evidence. Such evidence as distinguished architectural, artistic or engineering design, distinguished performance in the arts or professional fields, shall be considered in appropriate cases.

When assessing scholarship for career decisions, consideration will be given to different pathways to academic and scholarly excellence. Diverse substantive contributions to knowledge and methods of dissemination, as recognized within the field of inquiry, are valued.

- a) For the scholarship of teaching, scholarly activity may be evidenced by originality or innovation, demonstrable impact in a particular field or discipline, peer reviews, dissemination in the public domain, or substantial and sustained use by others. For example, textbooks and curriculum reform that changed academic understanding or made a significant contribution to the way in which a discipline or field is taught might constitute useful evidence of the scholarship of teaching whereas textbooks or curriculum revision of a routine nature would not.
- b) In professional or clinical studies scholarly activity may be evidenced by research on or the creation of:
  - i) significant applications of fundamental theory; or
  - ii) significant forms and applications of professional or clinical practice.

Work with professional, technical, scholarly or other organizations or with scholarly publications which falls within the definition of scholarly activity may also be considered.



**a place of mind**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

...

#### **4.05 Service to the University and the Community**

This includes service performed for the benefit of Departments, Faculties, Continuing Studies, or other parts of the University (including the Faculty Association), and for professional organizations and the community at large. Such service might include administrative or supervisory work, service on committees and university bodies, all continuing education activity in the community including professional education, special work with professional, technical, scholarly or other organizations or with scholarly publications not falling within the definition of scholarly activity, membership on or service to governmental or public councils and boards, and other forms of academic, professional, and public service.