Sample interview questions for candidates for the HSS Promotion and Tenure Committee

From Spring 2014

1. Since the P&T Committee is an advisory body to the Dean of the College, how do you think you can best serve the decision-making of the Dean? What qualities do you think are most important in those who sit on this committee?

2. Since the College houses both the humanities and social sciences, how would you approach the evaluation of candidates who are in departments other than your own or in entirely different disciplines? In particular, do you think that disciplines have different standards of productivity and excellence in research that should be represented in the P&T Committee?

3. How would you evaluate candidates in fields where non-print research publications, such as electronic or creative projects, are as important or more important than research publications? Do you think that a published monograph is essential in the promotion for assistant to associate and another monograph essential in the promotion from associate to full? In your view, are there extenuating circumstances?

4. How would you approach the evaluation of candidates who hold positions in interdisciplinary studies or who hold joint appointments? What kind of information would you seek in the second unit? Do you think that productivity and achievement should be measured equally in both, and how would you handle a split case?

5. The College has been promoting vigorously the recruitment of undergraduate majors and the importance of excellent teaching in facing the problem of decreasing enrollments. How should this priority play into P&T decisions?