

Adopted by the faculty on 4/30/03
Amended by the Faculty on 11/01/07

Suffolk University Law School Standards Governing the Appointment, Retention and Promotion of Clinical Professors of Law

1. APPOINTMENT OF CLINICAL PROFESSORS:

1-A Persons appointed to the clinical faculty shall be appointed to the rank of *Assistant Clinical Professor of Law*, **or** *Associate Clinical Professor of Law*, **or** *Clinical Professor of Law*. (hereafter referred to in these Standards as "Clinical Professor" except where reference is specifically made to the rank).

1-B Clinical Professors are appointed to and shall be members of the full-time resident faculty, having all the privileges as other resident faculty, except that they will not serve on the Faculty Appointments Committee or Tenure Committee and shall not vote on appointments to tenure or tenure-track appointments or tenure issues.

1-C Clinical Professors are appointed under a separate "Clinical Tenure" track in accord with American Bar Association Standard §405 (c), Interpretation 405-6.

1-D Initial appointment as Clinical Professor is for a term of three years, and is made on the recommendation of the Committee on Clinical Programs, subject to the approval of 60% of the faculty voting. Procedures for appointment shall generally follow the model used by the Faculty Appointments Committee, but may be varied to meet the peculiar needs of the clinical program; voting procedures within the faculty shall be identical to that used to vote on all other candidates for the resident faculty.

1-E The Clinical Programs Committee shall make a recommendation as to rank on appointment.

1-F The first year of appointment shall be probationary, but notice of non-renewal must be given by March 15 of the year corresponding to the person's first year of service. A decision not to renew after the first year of service shall be made by the Dean in consultation with the Clinical Committee and the Director of Clinical Programs. If notice is not so given the person shall be appointed for the second and third year of service.

2. RETENTION:

2-A A Clinical Professor completing his or her first three-year appointment shall be eligible for appointment to a subsequent three-year appointment, so long as that person's service to the law school and the clinical programs is deemed satisfactory by the Dean under the *Standards*

(below), in consultation with the Committee on Clinical Programs and the Director. The Committee and the Director shall make a recommendation to the Dean after an evaluation of the person's service in accord with the *Standards*.

2-B The Augmented Tenure Committee shall consist of members of the Tenure Committee, Clinical Professors who have been awarded Clinical Tenure, and the Director of Clinical Programs.

2-C During a Clinical Professor's second three year appointment, the Augmented Tenure Committee shall determine whether in its opinion the Clinical Professor ought to be granted "Clinical Tenure." That determination shall be made using the same procedures employed to recommend candidates for tenure, except that the standards by which a candidate for Clinical Professor shall be judged are those set out in the *Standards* (below). A determination in favor of appointing a Clinical Professor to "Clinical Tenure" shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Augmented Tenure Committee present and voting at a duly constituted meeting and those voting by absentee ballot, under such procedures as the Augmented Tenure Committee may adopt. The Dean shall forward the report of the Augmented Tenure Committee together with his or her own recommendations to the Board of Trustees.

2-D After the appointment to Clinical Tenure is final, Clinical Professors shall continue in their position unless there is good cause for dismissal. Good cause includes but is not limited to the termination or material modification of the Law School's Clinical Programs.

2-E In appropriate cases the Chair of the Clinical Programs Committee, in consultation with the Director, may recommend to the Dean that he or she authorize a candidate be considered for long-term contract status even though that person has completed less than six years of service.

3. STANDARDS:

3-A The *Standards* governing the promotion in rank and reappointment to a long-term contract of three and/or five years, to be considered by the Dean, the Committee on Clinical Programs, and the Director, and by the full Faculty in voting the initial five-year appointment, are based on the Clinical Professor's (i) teaching, counseling and supervision of students, and (ii) service to the law school community and legal profession. Scholarship, while not required, is encouraged and supported.

3-B Teaching is the most significant duty of Clinical Professors. The standard expected is excellence in teaching both in the classroom and in individual consultation with students. Among the factors which may be considered, if applicable, in evaluating a person's clinical teaching are the following:

- (a) preparation
- (b) selection of teaching materials
- (c) contributions to the methods and substance of clinical teaching
- (d) ability and willingness to incorporate ethical instruction into teaching
- (e) effective communication in classroom and group settings

- (f) effective counseling of students regarding their caseloads
- (g) effective supervision of students in the clinical setting
- (h) willingness and ability to teach and work collaboratively with other faculty members
- (i) creation of educationally sound simulation problems
- (j) responsiveness to appropriate recommendations by the Director and colleagues
- (k) ability to develop sources of court appointments or internships for students
- (l) ability to interact with faculty, members of the bar and the judiciary to further the goals of the program and the Law School
- (m) the quality of in-court supervision of students
- (n) the ability to develop opportunities for grants

3-C When a Clinical Professor teaches outside the clinical curriculum, the standards used shall be those used by the Professional Development Committee and the Tenure Committee, as appropriate, including peer review.

3-D Student evaluations may be considered in evaluating teaching in all courses, but shall not be controlling.

3-E Clinical Professors, as full-time members of the faculty, are expected to teach and to be available to students throughout the regular academic year.

3-F Clinical Professors are expected to be available to handle necessary and emergency matters as counsel which may come up during periods when students are not available for that purpose. From time to time, the Law School, in conjunction with the Director, will normally arrange for a summer free of such responsibilities in order to pursue scholarship, course design or improvements, professional development, or other related interests.

3-G Clinical Professors are expected to fulfill all faculty responsibilities, including participation in faculty committees to which the Dean appoints them and attendance and voting in faculty meetings, except as limited by § 1-B, above.

3-H In evaluating a Clinical Professor his or her involvement in and contribution to the profession and the public good by *pro bono* activities, bar associations, professional legal education groups, advanced legal studies and other continuing legal education program intended to educate and improve the practice of law shall be considered.

3-I Scholarship is strongly encouraged and supported. Any scholarship produced by a Clinical Professor shall be considered in his or her evaluation. Such writings may include published law review articles, books, practice-oriented materials, continuing legal education materials, clinical instruction manuals, significant appellate briefs, and substantial legislative or judicial materials.

3-J Clinical Professors are eligible to apply to the Dean for research grants on the same basis as other full-time members of the faculty, and their publications growing out of such grants will be evaluated.

4. AMENDMENT:

4-A These *Standards* may be amended by a majority vote of the Faculty, present and voting, on such amendment. Unless a Clinical Professor subject to these *Standards* elects otherwise, any amendment shall have prospective application, making it applicable to any faculty member who obtains their first full-time appointment to the faculty after the applicable date of such amendment.

5. NON-APPLICATION OF THESE STANDARDS:

5-A Policies set out in these standards do not apply to appointment or retention of Adjunct Clinical Professors, part-time supervisors, or clinical instructors. These policies also do not apply to persons teaching in and/or administering programs which are primarily supported by grant funding unless the faculty by majority vote and Dean authorize such application.

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