1. Members of the tenure track faculty in the Department of Physics and Astronomy recommended for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure will show evidence of:

A. Effective teaching in undergraduate or graduate education, as usually evidenced by more than one of the following:

(i) Course instructional materials, including syllabi, homework, class notes, quizzes and tests.

(ii) Active participation as a mentor or advisor for students.

(iii) Course innovation, including textbook writing.

(iv) Positive record on in-class peer review and student evaluations of teaching.

B. A creative, independent and productive program of research in a significant area of physics or astronomy, visibility in this field at a national or international level, and the potential to sustain and improve this program, as usually evidenced by:

(i) A significant body of refereed publications in high impact primary journals for the field, and/or in general journals, reporting original research conducted at Arizona State University that has substantially enriched the science.

(ii) Appropriate peer-reviewed grant support from one or more of the major funding agencies, with the candidate having an essential role.

(iii) Presentations at the important meetings/conferences of the investigator’s field and seminars at major research universities.

(iv) Involvement and support of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers

(v) Awards of United States patents, if appropriate.

C. Conscientious and effective performance in university and professional service assignments.

2. Tenure track faculty will normally be considered for promotion from Assistant to Associate Professor with tenure in their sixth year in rank. Promotion at an earlier time may be considered in cases of unusually rapid development accompanied by an exceptional record of achievements as described in 1. Such early promotion will be accompanied by the granting of tenure status. Indicators of exceptional performance include:

A. An exceptional body of published work that clearly establishes international leadership in the chosen field.

B. Peer-reviewed funding at a level substantially beyond the average for the field.

C. Exceptional peer recognition exemplified by invitations to present prestigious lectures, plenary lectures, etc.

D. Awards for excellence in teaching and/or research.

E. Special recognition from funding agencies for excellence in research.
3. Members of the tenure track faculty recommended for promotion to the rank of Professor will show evidence of:

A. Sustained effective teaching contributions in courses, as evidenced by the criteria noted in 1.A. Some service in lower division courses is normally expected. Additional evidence includes sustained and effective mentoring of graduate students, leading to the masters’ and doctoral degrees, and successful careers beyond ASU.

B. Recognition as a major influential force in one or more significant areas of research as usually evidenced by:

(i) A substantial body of refereed publications in high impact primary journals for the field, and/or in general journals, reporting research that has significantly enriched the field.

(ii) Continuing and appropriate peer-reviewed grant support from one or more of the major funding agencies.

(iii) Invited presentations at the important meetings and conferences of the investigator’s field and at major research universities; invitations to contribute to distinguished review publications

(iv) Service on important scientific review boards and panels, editorial and advisory boards and committees, and in professional organizations; organization of professional conferences/meetings.

(v) Awards of United States patents, if appropriate.

C. Sustained, conscientious and effective service at the local (Department, College, and University) and professional levels.

4. Promotion to the rank of Professor is warranted only when the criteria in 3 are met. Thus, promotion is based neither on promise nor longevity. The time required by different faculty members to attain the appropriate level of achievement will vary, with at least five years being the typical period in rank at the Associate Professor level. Promotion to the rank of Professor at an earlier time will only be considered in cases of unusually rapid development accompanied by an exceptional record of achievements. Indicators of such exceptional performance include:

A. An exceptional body of published work that clearly establishes international leadership in the chosen field.

B. Peer-reviewed funding at a level substantially beyond the average for the field.

C. Exceptional peer recognition exemplified by invitations to present prestigious lectures, plenary lectures, etc.

D. Awards for excellence in teaching and/or research.

E. Special recognition from funding agencies for excellence in research.

F. Election to membership in bodies such as the National Academy of Sciences, or to fellowship status in the individual’s professional society.

Adopted by vote of the faculty
August 28, 2001