

Policy Regarding Unsolicited Faculty Letters in Promotion and Tenure Dossiers

Jointly Proposed by the IUB and IUPUI Faculty Affairs Committees

Spring 2009

Unsolicited letters received from Indiana University faculty members will not be included in the promotion, tenure or long-term contract dossiers of School of Education candidates. This policy will apply to all School of Education promotion, tenure, and long-term contract candidates on the IUB and IUPUI campuses.

Rationale

There should be a uniform policy concerning unsolicited letters that is applied consistently across all departments in the School of Education. Allowing unsolicited letters in the dossier can enhance the openness and transparency of the promotion and tenure process; however, their inclusion also creates the possibility that a small minority of faculty could have a disproportionate influence on promotion and tenure decisions. Given that all primary committee faculty have the opportunity to openly voice their opinions in the primary committee meeting, it seems most fair to disallow the inclusion of unsolicited letters for all candidates.