October 25, 2022

[Summary: Assistant professors and associate professors on term governed by FASTAP 2007 are eligible for a one-year leave at full salary while appointed in each rank. The details of leave eligibility and the procedure and schedule for leave applications are outlined below. To begin the application process, eligible faculty should submit their CV and leave proposal to their department/program in November 2022.]

To: SEAS Department Chairs
Cc: SEAS Non-Tenured Ladder Faculty on FASTAP 2007, SEAS Chairs’ Assistants and Operations Managers, SEAS Dean’s Office Staff, OFAS
From: Jeffrey Brock, Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

Overview

I write with details on procedures for leave applications for the 2023-24 academic year, or 2024 calendar year, for non-tenured ladder faculty governed by FASTAP 2007.

- Assistant professors governed by FASTAP 2007 are eligible for a one-year leave at full salary, typically taken during a single academic year during the second, third, or fourth year of their initial appointments. (In the case of faculty whose work is laboratory-based, the faculty member may, with the approval of the department and SEAS Dean, take one semester of their first leave during their first semester at Yale in order to set up their laboratory.) Assistant professor leaves under FASTAP 2007 are called Junior Faculty Fellowships.
- Associate professors on term governed by FASTAP 2007 are eligible for a one-year leave at full salary, called an Associate Professor Leave (APL), in the first or second academic year of their appointment at that rank.

Schedule

1. **November 2022:** The assistant or associate professor submits their current CV, as well as a leave proposal to their department. The proposal should describe the project that will be undertaken during the leave, and how it will contribute to the candidate’s growth as a researcher and teacher. The proposal should explain the significance of the project to the candidate’s field of study, the methods to be used in undertaking the project, and a plan to achieve publication or dissemination. (Proposals should not exceed 5 pages.)
2. **November 2022:** The department chair’s assistant (or equivalent) (the “staff member”) creates a case in Interfolio using the template Non-Tenured Faculty Leave Request and the Sabbatical case type and uploads the candidate’s leave proposal and CV.
The department chair’s assistant shares the Interfolio case with the assistant or associate professor so they can complete the Faculty Research Leave Request Form within Interfolio.

3. **November 2022:** The department chair appoints a departmental committee of permanent officers to evaluate proposals for leaves for non-tenured ladder faculty. The staff member adds these committee members onto the relevant step in the Interfolio case, and forwards the case to that step for review.

4. **November 2022:** The departmental committee reviews the candidate’s materials in Interfolio, and assesses the proposal’s strengths, weaknesses, and feasibility. One or more of the departmental committee members then meets with the candidate to provide feedback on the proposal. The candidate may then revise and resubmit the proposal, if needed. Once the proposal is final, the chair of the departmental committee prepares a short report (typically less than one page) detailing the committee’s evaluation of the proposal and summarizing the discussion with the candidate and sends it to the staff member. The staff member uploads the report to Interfolio and forwards the case to the department chair.

5. **December 1, 2022:** The department chair reviews the materials in Interfolio, and sends their recommendation to the staff member to upload to Interfolio. The staff member then forwards the case in Interfolio to the SEAS Dean’s Office for review. [Thereafter, the SEAS Dean’s Office manages the case.]

6. **January-February, 2023:** After the leave proposal is reviewed and approved by OFAS, and the SEAS Dean’s Office, the SEAS Dean’s Office notifies the faculty member, department chair, and relevant staff (via email) of all decisions regarding requests for leaves for non-tenured ladder faculty.

**Additional information**

**Timing of JFF Leaves**

Non-tenured ladder faculty members should be encouraged to take the Junior Faculty Fellowship when it best advances their research programs. Except in unusual circumstances, we recommend taking the leave in the third or fourth year. This schedule provides the faculty member an opportunity to become integrated into the department and University, and to develop a strong teaching record prior to the first review. We value high quality teaching not only for its importance to our undergraduate and graduate students, but also because it enriches the scholarship of our faculty members. Non-tenured ladder faculty may wish to take one semester of the leave in their first semester at Yale for the purpose of setting up a new laboratory, and take the second semester in the third or fourth year. Except in exceptional circumstances, a full-year leave should be taken over an academic rather than a calendar year, to allow the candidate to participate fully in the life of the University.

**Timing of APL**
Faculty members who wish to take their APL in the first year following promotion to associate professor on term must apply for the leave during the same academic year as the promotion review. In such cases, the approval of the application will be offered contingent upon successful promotion. Faculty members should not wait until the review is completed before applying for the APL for the following year.

External funding

We encourage non-tenured ladder faculty members who are applying for leave also to apply for external fellowships at the same time. Winning an external award is, of course, beneficial for one’s career, but even submitting such a proposal may raise a scholar’s visibility among the senior scholars in the discipline serving on awards committees. If a member of the SEAS faculty who has been granted a paid leave is also successful in obtaining from outside sources any portion of the salary that he or she is eligible to receive from Yale for the term of that leave, one half of the resulting salary savings to the University up to $25,000 will be used to create an individual research account, which may be used for any legitimate research expenses.

Review process and mentoring

Implementation of these leave procedures requires the energy and cooperation of the tenured members of the SEAS faculty, but we know that the permanent officers share our commitment to enhancing the scholarly productivity of our non-tenured colleagues.

The review and evaluation of proposals for leaves is an important component of a broader mentoring plan for non-tenured ladder faculty.

Faculty Handbook

Leave descriptions and policies are available in the Faculty Handbook online at http://provost.yale.edu/faculty-handbook, section XVII, Leaves of Absence: University-wide, and section IV.L, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Leaves.

Please feel free to contact the SEAS Dean’s Office at seas.facultyaffairs@yale.edu if you have questions or need additional information.