

## **Department of Physics and Astronomy RTP Criteria**

The Mission of the Department of Physics and Astronomy is to provide excellent education to the diverse Sonoma State University student population through general education, support courses and a strong major program with demonstrable quality of instruction, and vibrant scholarship that first and foremost integrates student involvement. The expectations of the Department are that promotion to Associate Professor and granting of tenure require the candidate to demonstrate satisfactory teaching effectiveness and to possess the potential, with more experience, of becoming a superior instructor. For promotion to Professor, a candidate must be an accomplished instructor and be an inspiration to students. Faculty are expected to contribute to the Department, School of Science and Technology, University and Community through service that supports and promotes this mission.

### Physics and Astronomy departmental criteria

<i>Teaching</i>	<i>Scholarship, Research &amp; Creative Achievements</i>	<i>University Service</i>	<i>Community Service</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate excellence in teaching through a combination of metrics including student evaluations, peer evaluations and compelling self-evaluation. The expectation is that student evaluations average better than 3.75 in RTP-evaluated courses. Any criteria where scores are below 3.75 needs to be addressed in self-assessment, and future performance improvements.</li> <li>• Teach courses serving a broad array of our student population at the lower and upper division levels.</li> <li>• Demonstrate a commitment to improving student outcomes beyond the classroom (with particular attention to majors) including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability outside of class</li> <li>• Contributing to the growth in the number of majors</li> <li>• Contributing to the post-SSU success of students through career and graduate school preparation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholarly contributions to their field such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publishing at least four articles in the appropriate venue for their discipline; two for promotion from Assistant to Associate Professor; two more for promotion from Associate to full Professor</li> <li>• Seeking and/or attaining external funding which should support student research</li> <li>• Presenting work at conferences</li> <li>• Collaboration with peers</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Student involvement in scholarly work. Examples of success in this endeavor include but are not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervising Capstone research to advance the candidate’s research</li> <li>• Student (co-)authorship of articles</li> <li>• Student presentations at conferences</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the progress of the Department through:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating in departmental governance</li> <li>• Providing support to departmental goals for students through activities such as advising, supervising student clubs, preparatory outside class instruction such as GRE preparation, writing workshops etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Serve on School and University Committees</li> <li>• Develop teaching methodology and common resources such as lab equipment and student lab manuals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Represent the Department, School and University to local community by activities such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaking at community organizations</li> <li>• Preparing and holding community-accessible events such as our “What Physicists Do” Seminar series or our Public Viewing Nights at SSU Observatory</li> <li>• Supporting media coverage of work at SSU</li> <li>• Serving on local nonacademic committees and advising</li> <li>• Assisting in science fairs and development of science programs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>