II. Role of the Department

A. There shall be a department committee (elected by September 30 of each academic year) to evaluate faculty for continuing and term appointments. The committee shall be elected by secret ballot by a majority vote of the department's voting faculty as defined in Article X, Section 3 of the Policies. It shall serve from the beginning of the fall semester to the beginning of the fall semester of the following year. Members may serve two-year staggered terms at the discretion of the department. If vacancies occur on the departmental committee, they shall be filled in accordance with the procedures enumerated hereunder.

B. The department shall determine the size of the committee and the eligibility for membership, except that the department chair shall not be a member of the committee but may, at the option of the committee, attend meetings as a resource person. In cases of faculty with responsibilities in other departments or programs, a representative of that other program should also attend meetings as a resource. A majority of the department committee shall have continuing appointment, provided there are at least three members of the department, excluding the chair, on continuing appointment. In addition, every member of the committee must have two semesters of full-time service as voting faculty at Oswego prior to the beginning of the member's term on the committee. Representation of the ranks shall be encouraged. No faculty member who is to be considered for continuing appointment may serve on the committee. In the event that a department has too few eligible faculty to constitute a committee, the dean, in consultation with the department, will assign faculty from other departments to augment the committee.