SABBATICAL LEAVE

PREAMBLE: This section describes the terms of eligibility for sabbatical leave for UI faculty. The policy is derived from, and incorporates all of, the State Board of Education, Governing Policies and Procedures, II-G. 3 b. This section was an original part of the 1979 Handbook and has been changed in only editorial ways since. Except where explicitly noted, the text is as of July 1996. Further information is available from the current chair of the Sabbatical Leave Evaluation Committee. [ed. 6-09]

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A. GENERAL POLICY. Members of the UI faculty [see 1520 II-1] with tenure at the time of sabbatical leave, and the rank of senior instructor or above, or the equivalent of such rank, may be granted sabbatical leave after six full academic years of service at UI or after six full academic years have elapsed since the faculty member’s most recent sabbatical leave at UI. Sabbatical leave is granted on the basis of application by the faculty member and recommendation by the Sabbatical Leave Evaluation Committee (SLEC) [see 1640.74] and upon approval by the Faculty Senate and the president or designee. Sabbatical leave applications by faculty members in the Cooperative Extension System (CES) are handled separately: conditions of leave for these faculty members are established and funding is provided by the CES and their applications are evaluated by a committee of the CES. [ed. 7-01, 7-02, 6-09]

B. PURPOSE. The primary purpose of a sabbatical leave is to enhance the faculty member’s value to UI. Specifically, a sabbatical leave is to be used for one or more of the following purposes:

B-1. Research, scholarship, or study intended to result in publication or invention.

B-2. Refresher courses or a program of study, work, or travel designed to keep the faculty member abreast of the latest developments in his or her area of specialization.

B-3. Work toward an advanced degree.

C. PERIOD OF LEAVE AND SALARY. A sabbatical leave is for either one-half academic or fiscal year at full pay or a full academic or fiscal year at half pay, depending on the type of appointment held by the faculty member. Note that those on full year sabbaticals must arrange for full year life insurance and disability benefits if so interested. [See APM 55.42] [ed. 1-11]

D. RESTRICTIONS ON SERVICE AND SALARY. The decision as to the acceptability of a proposal will not be based on whether additional remuneration may be received, but rather on the probability that the faculty member will enhance his or her value to UI. Teaching elsewhere or working in research laboratories of industry or government may be approved if such activities can be expected to contribute significantly to the acquisition of useful ideas and practices. In no case will leave be granted primarily for the purpose of augmenting the person’s income. The benefit to UI must be
 foremost in the consideration leading to approval of the leave.

E. ANNUAL JOB DESCRIPTION. The faculty member is expected to note sabbatical purpose and goals on the annual faculty job description. Performance evaluation will reflect the faculty member’s purpose and goals while on sabbatical.

F. CHANGES IN SABBATICAL. If a faculty member must change the purpose, place, or time of the sabbatical leave, he or she must submit a written request, with recommendation from the dean and unit administrator, to the SLEC for approval. This request must state the rationale for the changes and document how the sabbatical leave plan will reflect these changes. Upon approval by the SLEC, any changes will be sent to the provost. [ed. 8-11]

G. RETURN. The faculty member is expected either to return to the active service of UI for at least one academic year after completion of the leave or to repay the money received from UI while on leave, unless the president approves a waiver of this requirement. Within six weeks after returning, the faculty member must submit to the provost’s office and the faculty member’s dean and unit administrator a complete report in PDF format of his or her activities while on leave. This report will be available to members of the SLEC, the provost, the faculty secretary, and the faculty member’s dean and unit administrator. [rev. 7-97, 7-02, 7-13, 12-15, ed. 8-11]

H. APPLICATION FOR LEAVE. An application is submitted to the SLEC with recommendation from the unit administrator and dean. Any SLEC member who submits an application for consideration must recuse themselves from reviewing all applications for that application period. The SLEC evaluates the proposal in accordance with subsections I, J, and K, below. Therefore, the application should present the merit of the proposed leave clearly and convincingly and should be prepared with care and thoroughness of a paper submitted for publication. The application should consist of the following: [rev. 7-97, 12-15, ed. 7-02, ed. 8-11]

H-1. Cover Page. Include a title indicative of the proposed sabbatical activity, the period of requested leave, name and rank of the applicant, and signatures of the administrators approving the application.


H-3. Description of Proposed Sabbatical. Major headings should include a detailed statement of what the applicant plans to do while on sabbatical, the objectives and significance of the proposed activities, the value of these activities to the applicant’s UI obligations, the feasibility and methods of accomplishing the objectives, and the applicant’s qualifications pertinent to the proposed activities. This section should consist of not more than four single-spaced typewritten pages. [rev. 7-97]

H-4. Curriculum Vitae. Include a standard University of Idaho curriculum vitae.

H-5. Appendix. Evaluation of the proposal by college dean and unit chair, letters of acceptance from persons with whom the applicant plans to work, itinerary, and other supportive documentation should be appended to the application. [ed. 7-98, 7-02, ed. 8-11]

I. RATING SYSTEM. The application will be rated by the SLEC according to the following system:

I-1. Merit and feasibility of the proposal, 60 percent. [rev. 7-97]

I-2. Applicant’s record or potential for research, teaching, service and/or other pertinent activity, 25 percent. [add. 7-97]

I-3. Length of service to UI, up to 15 percent. Each year of service, counting from the faculty member’s initial appointment or from his or her most recent sabbatical leave, whichever is later, is assigned a weight of one point, limited to a maximum of 15. [ren. and rev. 7-97]

J. PROCEDURE FOR RATING. To give sufficient time for planning of sabbatical leaves, applications must be
submitted at least 10-17 months before the beginning of the academic year during which the leave is to be taken. The SLEC meets in April of each year to consider applications received by March 31 for the academic year beginning 17 months later. The committee rates the applications according to the rating system specified in I and makes recommendations to the Provost who notifies applicants of the university’s preliminary approval or disapproval. In this round of sabbatical applications the provost notifies no more applicants than a number equal to 60 percent of the sabbatical leaves expected to be available for the year under consideration. Faculty members who do not apply for sabbatical leave by March 31 may apply on or before November 1 for the academic year beginning 10 months later. The SLEC meets in November to consider new applications (and reconsider resubmitted applications). The SLEC again makes recommendations to the provost who submits a list of those faculty members recommended by the SLEC and proposed by the provost in both April and November to Faculty Senate for final approval. If there is substantial change in an applicant’s plans, he or she must submit a new plan through the unit administrator, dean, and the SLEC for approval. If the new plan is not approved, the applicant may request leave without pay. [rev. 7-97, ed. 7-00, 6-09, ed. 8-11]

K. CRITERIA USED IN EVALUATING PROPOSALS.

K-1. Preparation, Thought, and Documentation: Organization of the proposal, originality of the idea, thoroughness, specificity, feasibility, preliminary work done on the project in addition to the planning, letters of appointment and acceptance, other documents supportive of the proposal, and the applicant’s plans for travel, if that is an integral feature of the proposal. [rev. and ren. 7-97]

K-2. Benefit to UI and to Applicant: Contribution to applicant’s knowledge and understanding, contribution to teaching or other assigned duties at UI, publications or other scholarly works resulting from the project, enhancement of professional status, recognition for UI, and contribution to special projects or to UI programs. [rev. and ren. 7-97]

K-3. Applicant’s Record of or Potential for Research, Teaching, Service and/or Other Pertinent Activity: Publications, performances, grants, postdoctoral fellowships, leaves, participation in relevant professional organizations, record of achievement on previous grants and leaves, evaluation by unit administrator and dean, and evidence of excellence in teaching, service, or other evidence of contribution to the university. [rev. and ren. 7-97; ed. 7-98, ed. 8-11]
SABBATICAL LEAVE EVALUATION FORM [rev. 7-97]

APPLICANT’S NAME

SEMESTER(S) APPLIED FOR

PURPOSE OF LEAVE

I--VALUE OF PLAN (Maximum 60 points)

A. Preparation, Thought, and Documentation (where appropriate) (30 points)

(For preparation and thought, consider the following: organization of the proposal, originality of the idea, thoroughness, specificity, feasibility, and preliminary work begun on project beyond planning; for documentation consider the following: itinerary, letters of appointment, letters of acceptance, and other supportive documentation if applicable.)

Excellent 27-30; Good 22-26; Average 16-21; Poor 8-15; Unacceptable 0-7 Points __

B. Benefit to University and Individual (30 points)

(Consider the following: contribution to applicant’s knowledge and understanding, contribution to teaching or other assigned duties at university, publications or other scholarly works resulting from project, enhancement of professional status, recognition for university, contribution to special projects or programs within university.)

Excellent 27-30; Good 22-26; Average 16-21; Poor 8-15; Unacceptable 0-7 Points __

II. APPLICANT’S RECORD OR POTENTIAL FOR RESEARCH, TEACHING, SERVICE AND/OR OTHER PERTINENT ACTIVITY (Maximum 25 points) (25 points)

(Consider the following: publications, performances, grants, post-doctoral fellowships, leaves, participation in relevant organizations, record of achievement of previous grants and leaves, evaluation by unit administrator and dean, including their assessment of the proposal and annual evaluation forms, evidence of excellence in teaching, service, or other evidence of contributions to the university, as required by the applicant’s position description.) [ed. 8-11]

Excellent 23-25; Good 19-22; Average 13-18; Poor 8-12; Unacceptable 0-7 Points __

III--SERVICE (Maximum 15 points)

(One point awarded for each year of service to university since the last sabbatical leave to a maximum of 15 points.) Points __

EVALUATOR _________________________________________

DATE ________________________________________________ Total Points ___