

# Questions for a Mentor

---

## Research

- What are the criteria for evaluation research for promotion and tenure?
- What resources, monetary and non-monetary, are available for research?
- Where can I get feedback on my research? What is the best way of getting feedback on a paper?
- What research resources are available to me as a faculty member?

## Teaching

- What criteria are employed for evaluating teaching for review, promotion, and tenure considerations?
- Where can I receive feedback on guidance with teaching?
- How much time should I spend on course preparation? How much teaching should I expect to do?
- What teaching-related documentation should I retain for my personnel file?
- Does the department store syllabi so that I can understand how others have taught the same or similar topics?

## Students

- How much advising should I expect to do?
- How does one identify and recruit top quality graduate students? How can I identify a problem student?
- How do I promote students/programs to the rest of the community?
- What files should I maintain on my students for reviews and recommendations?

## Work Life Balance and Personal Development

- How does one establish an appropriate balance among teaching, research, and committee work?
- What can I do to meet faculty members with similar research and teaching interests?
- What seminars and workshops are offered to faculty? Which does my department organize, and how can I find out about these?
- Which listserves should I belong to?

## Administration

- What committees should I be on, and how much committee work should I expect to undertake?
- If I'm asked to be on a committee, how can I say "no" gracefully?

## Review and Promotion

- What does the promotion process consist of? Who is involved?
- How and when do I start to accumulate materials for a promotion portfolio?  
How can I get feedback on my performance?

---

Information used in developing these questions was drawn from the University of Wisconsin, University of California—San Diego, and University of Michigan—Dearborn websites.



Columbia University  
MAILMAN SCHOOL  
OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Office of Academic Affairs  
722 West 168<sup>th</sup> Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10032