IUPUI SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS
FACULTY SALARY POLICY

The School of Liberal Arts endorses merit pay as the basis for faculty salary adjustments, providing that the resulting salary structure is equitable and market-oriented. The salary adjustment categories and procedures identified below should lessen some of the problems faculty and administrators have identified, i.e., inequities within and among departments, compression between ranks, and unresponsiveness to market demands. The dean should allocate funds for all categories whenever meritorious cases for salary adjustment arise, although it should be noted that, while faculty salaries are to remain one of the highest budgetary priorities of the school, all adjustments are ultimately based on availability of funds within the school. The dean is responsible for deciding the appropriate distribution of salary adjustment sums allocated to individuals and departments. Likewise, although required to consult with faculty, the dean is ultimately responsible for final decisions on all salary adjustments. All faculty salary adjustments must fall under one of the categories, which are described below in order of priority.

I. Promotion Adjustment

Promotion represents special merit and should carry a substantial extra reward separate from normal considerations of merit, market, and equity, although care must be taken to ensure that any combination of the adjustments does not skew the departmental or school salary structure. Promotions should carry a salary increase of 10% of the faculty member’s base salary at the time of promotion, based on a 10-month appointment, with the following minimum amounts: Professor, $6,000; Associate Professor, $4,500; Senior Lecturer, $3,000.

II. Annual Merit Adjustment

Merit will constitute the primary basis for annual salary adjustments. Merit pay must be tied to annual reviews, which are based upon the information provided in faculty annual reports, including the faculty member’s annual goals. Faculty goals should reflect the goals and requirements of the department and school, as well as the faculty member’s particular interests. Tenure-line faculty members will be assessed based upon their teaching, research, and service. Lecturers will be assessed based upon their teaching and service. In reviewing faculty annual reports, each department should adopt standards for ranking faculty performance as significantly exceeding department expectations, exceeding department expectations, meeting department expectations, performing below department
expectations, or offering unsatisfactory performance. As noted in the SLA Annual Summary Review Form, each department shall determine the relative weight that teaching and service for lecturers—and teaching, research, and service for tenure-line faculty—count toward the overall evaluation of the faculty member. Each year, the dean will provide departments with a pool of money for all merit adjustments. The department is responsible for distributing those funds according to department policy. The dean should make every effort to make appropriate annual adjustment allocations to the departments.

III. Other Adjustments

A. Market Adjustment

The School of Liberal Arts should pay competitive market salaries to recruit and retain high quality faculty. Market adjustments should be made when departments demonstrate empirically that an individual faculty member can command a higher salary elsewhere in academe. Such empirical evidence might include competing offers, authoritative salary data for the discipline, or pay awarded to new hires in the discipline at IUPUI. Market adjustments should go only to faculty members whose last two annual reviews indicate that they have exceeded department expectations as measured by departmental standards.

Faculty members interested in receiving a market adjustment should present their case to their department chair, or to the chair or director of the department, institute or program to which their primary responsibilities lie, who will forward the faculty member’s case to the dean, along with the faculty member’s c.v., last two annual reviews, and a letter either recommending or not recommending the adjustment. If a market adjustment is granted, the adjustment can be made over a period of years.

B. Equity Adjustment

In any merit system for which no predictable adjustment pool exists, some faculty members may fall behind in salary compared to colleagues with similar career accomplishments. The SLA believes such faculty members should be offered equitable compensation with such peers.

By September 30 of each year the dean’s office will notify any faculty members (and their chairs or directors) whose performance has been judged by their department to have exceeded department expectations and whose salary has fallen to below 90% of the average salary of all other faculty in their department in their rank. Faculty members with joint appointments should be compared with all other faculty of their rank in all
of the departments or programs to which they are appointed. If a
department does not have multiple faculty members in a particular rank, a
faculty member in that rank may compare his or her salary to faculty in the
same rank in other SLA departments with comparable salary structures.

Faculty members who wish to pursue an equity adjustment should petition
their chair, or the chair or director of the department, institute or program
to which their primary responsibilities lie (hereafter chair), who is
responsible for reviewing the faculty member’s claims for equity
adjustment based upon the department or program’s standards for ranking
faculty performance. A faculty petition for equity adjustment should
include a statement offering reasons for the raise, along with copies of the
petitioner’s c.v. and last two annual reviews.

If the chair agrees with the faculty member that an equity adjustment is
called for, the case is sent with the chair’s recommendation to the dean. If
the dean and the chair agree on their findings, they will negotiate an equity
adjustment for the faculty member in question.

If the chair disagrees with the faculty member that an equity adjustment is
appropriate, the case is sent with the chair’s recommendation to the
Faculty Enhancement Committee. The chair should also send a copy of the
petition and recommendation to the dean. The Faculty Enhancement
Committee will review the case and forward its recommendation to the
dean, with copies forwarded to the petitioning faculty member and the
chair. The dean’s decision will be based on the recommendations of both
the chair and the Faculty Enhancement Committee.

If the dean approves an equity adjustment, the salary pool allocated by the
dean’s office will ordinarily be responsible for 100% of the monies
necessary for the raise. However, if the dean feels the equity shortfall
stems from systematic undervaluation of the faculty member’s
contributions over a period of years, the dean may refer the case to the
Faculty Enhancement Committee. If that committee agrees with the dean’s
findings, it will suggest an appropriate and reasonable distribution of the
funding of the equity enhancement between department and dean’s office
funds. The dean will then determine the appropriate distribution of the
funding of the equity adjustment based on the Faculty Enhancement
Committee’s recommendation, and in consultation with the chair. In cases
of joint or adjunct appointments, all chairs or program directors involved
in funding the equity adjustment will be involved in this process.

If an equity adjustment is granted, the adjustment can be made over a
period of years, normally not more than three. If a petition for an equity
adjustment is denied, the faculty member must wait twelve months before
filing a new petition.