

GENERAL STAFF PROMOTION AND RECLASSIFICATION POLICY

Approved by	Council
Date Approved by:	25 November 2005
Date Effective:	Immediately
Date of Next Review:	December 2007
Related Policies:	
Contact Officer:	Director of Personnel Services

Overview:

This Policy outlines the process and procedures for general staff promotion and reclassification at the University. Promotion and reclassification can occur up to Level 8-9. The Policy also provides for a review process where a submission by a Head of Unit is not approved or where a general staff member is of the view that their classification is incorrect and their Head of Unit is not prepared to make a submission.

The Policy:

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 "Promotion and reclassification" is one way in which general staff may move between classifications. In addition to this procedure, members of staff may achieve a higher level by successfully applying for advertised vacancies. Staff may also be directly appointed to new positions created through restructuring with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.
- 1.2 "Promotion and reclassification" refers to a University decision to move a staff member from one level of the General Staff Salary Scale to the next after making an assessment of duties and responsibilities. It occurs when a Head of Department makes a submission to the Vice-Chancellor through the Dean or Director and Personnel Services to reclassify a staff member. A staff member may also initiate a submission. It usually occurs because of job change or occasionally as a result of individual merit. It arises either due to changes initiated by the Head or Supervisor and supported by the staff member or through changes initiated by the staff member and supported by the Head.
- 1.3 Position descriptions are the basis for all general staff classifications. The University requires that a current position description be maintained for all general staff positions. Personnel Services will ensure that such position descriptions are maintained by units and that Heads of Units comply with this requirement.
- 1.4 The classification of vacant positions must be approved by Personnel Services before such positions can be filled. When a position becomes vacant the University may need to redetermine the level of the position where adjustments to the duties and responsibilities of the position have been made. This determination is based on the classification criteria and the classification of the previous occupant is not necessarily a determinant of the classification.

2. GENERAL

- 2.1 Members of the general staff holding appointments at Level 1-2 to Level 5 may be promoted through promotion and reclassification. Applications can be merit based. Performance of the duties of their current appointment, in accordance with the criteria for that level, does not warrant promotion to the higher level. Reclassification is not automatic nor does length of service in itself necessarily qualify an applicant for reclassification.
- 2.2 In the case of an application for reclassification to Level 8-9, a Grading and Merit Committee would review the application. The Committee would consist of 2 management representatives and 2 elected staff representatives chosen by the affected staff member from the pool of elected representatives. Training will be provided to new Committee members. The Committee needs be satisfied that the position warrants a Level 8-9 classification together with the associated merit of the applicant. A recommendation will be made to the Vice-Chancellor.
- 2.3 Reclassification is appropriate where the duties and responsibilities of the position have been affected by ongoing change. Some other changes may be better addressed by a higher duties allowance. Where a set of duties are only for a fixed term or where the Head of Unit advises that the duties are temporary, a higher duties allowance may be recommended for the duration as an alternative to reclassification. Such allowances and the position itself will be re-assessed at least once every 12 months.
- 2.4 Staff will normally be eligible to seek reclassification when they have been on the top step of a salary range for at least 12 months.
- 2.5 On successful application, the salary of the staff member will normally be adjusted to the next step above their existing salary on the new level's salary scale.
- 2.6 Submissions for reclassification which are approved by the Vice-Chancellor will take effect from the date they are received by Personnel Services. An earlier date may be considered in special circumstances.
- 2.7 Where a reclassification moves a staff member to a level with a different superannuation requirement, it is a condition of the reclassification that the staff member complies with the varied superannuation requirements.

3. CRITERIA

- 3.1 The basis of classification is the criteria for each level contained in the attached Work Level Descriptors. Cases will be assessed against these criteria. Staff members must possess the qualifications specified and be performing work of a level consistent with the classification criteria for the level sought. For approval, the higher level work must constitute the major and substantial part of the job.
- 3.3 All of a staff member's work, not just parts of it, are examined when determining the correct classification. All duties performed, skills exercised and responsibilities undertaken must be used to match with the level of the classification structure that most closely aligns with the work being done.
- 3.4 A change in work performed does not of itself constitute a case for reclassification. Similarly, increases in work load or increases in productivity or efficiency are not of themselves a basis for reclassification unless they lead to changes in the skill level required, the nature and complexity of work and/or the level of responsibility. Under these circumstances, applications can be merit based.

4. SUBMISSIONS

- 4.1 A submission can be initiated by the staff member or the Head of Unit and should contain:
- (a) a completed classification questionnaire including a current position description; and
 - (b) any other relevant material the Head or staff member wishes to submit in relation to the application

The submission is to be made using the form available on the Personnel Services forms page

- 4.2 The Manager Personnel will have prepared a brief classification report on each submission.
- 4.3 Submissions for reclassification will be lodged through the Personnel Services Division.
- 4.4 Personnel Services will inform each Head and the staff member of the outcome of the submission. Should the submission be unsuccessful, reasons will be provided to the staff member in writing.
- 4.5 Submissions will be placed on the staff member's personal file.

5. GENERAL STAFF PROMOTION AND CLASSIFICATION REVIEWS

- 5.1 Classification and promotion decisions for general staff of the University may be the subject of review. The General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee may review cases where a submission by a Head of Unit is not approved by the University or where a staff member is of the view that their classification is incorrect and their Head of Unit is not prepared to make a submission in support of this view.

- 5.2 The following matters may not be used a basis of review.

- Arguments on the technical competence of the Head, Dean or Personnel Services to make an assessment;
- The introduction of new material dealing with the duties or responsibilities of the position or other factors not dealt with in the original submission; or any other action or process which is provided for in this procedure.

- 5.3 Requests for review must be lodged, with the Manager Personnel, and must state the reasons and full detail for the review being sought. The notification must be in writing. The request must include a completed classification questionnaire and a position description.

- 5.4 The General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee shall normally consist of three members:

- an independent Chair chosen by the Vice-Chancellor from the pool of chairpersons;
- a management representative;
- an elected staff representative chosen by the affected staff member from the pool of elected staff representatives; and
- in the event that both sexes are not represented, the Vice-Chancellor will appoint a person of the appropriate gender to the Committee.

The University will establish a pool of up to 4 elected staff representatives, elected by and from the general staff for the purposes of providing a choice of elected staff representatives. The elected

staff representatives to this pool will be elected for a term of three (3) years. The process for election of the elected staff representatives will be consistent with Schedule 1 of the University's By-law.

The University will establish a pool of 2 chairpersons for the purposes of providing chairpersons for this Committee. The pool of chairpersons will be approved by the University's Administrative Committee following consultation with the Staff Consultative Committee.

A staff member shall be ineligible to be a member of the General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee while the classification of their position is under consideration.

- 5.5 The University will appoint a Secretary to the General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee whose duties shall be to receive matters for the General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee's consideration and make all necessary arrangements on its behalf.
- 5.6 The General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee will be entitled to examine all documents relevant to the case under consideration, such documents will be made available to the Committee and the staff member by the Secretary.
- 5.7 The General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee may interview any member of staff who might be able to assist them in their deliberations.
- 5.8 All proceedings of the General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee will be confidential.
- 5.9 The General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee will deal with any request for review within 12 weeks of the deadline for the lodging of a request for review.
- 5.10 Recommendations from the General Staff Promotion and Classification Review Committee will be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor within one week of the final committee meeting. The report will be signed by the three members of the Committee and will be in the nature of a majority or unanimous recommendation to the Vice-Chancellor. The decision of the Vice-Chancellor in respect of any recommendation of the Committee will, provided that this does not affect the right of any staff member under legislation, be final.
- 5.11 Staff members will be advised by Personnel Services of the outcome of their review as soon as possible after determination. If unsuccessful, reasons will be provided to the staff member in writing.

WORK LEVEL DESCRIPTORS

All general staff positions shall be assessed for allocation to the appropriate level of remuneration on the basis of the following descriptors for each level.

This Schedule lists the descriptors for the levels under each of the seven classification dimensions used.

The seven dimensions are:

- training level or qualifications
- occupational equivalent
- level of supervision
- task level
- organisational knowledge
- judgment, independence and problem solving
- typical activities

LEVEL 1

- TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS

Employees at the base of this level would not be required to have formal qualifications or work experience upon engagement. Employees engaged at the base of this level will be provided with structured on the job training in addition to up to 38 hours of induction to the higher education industry which shall provide information on the higher education institution, conditions of employment, training to be made available and consequent career path opportunities, physical layout of the institution/work areas, introduction to fellow workers and supervisors, work and documentation procedures, occupational health and safety, equal employment opportunity practices and extended basic literacy and numeracy skills training where required/necessary to enable career path progression.

- OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT

Cleaner, labourer, trainee for level 2 duties.

- LEVEL OF SUPERVISION

Close supervision or, in the case of more experienced staff working alone, routine supervision.

- TASK LEVEL

Straight forward manual duties, or elements of level 2 duties under close supervision and structured on the job training.

Some knowledge of materials, eg, cleaning chemicals and hand tools, may be required.

Established procedures exist.

- ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

May provide straightforward information to others on building or service vocations.

- JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING

Resolve problems where alternatives for the job holder are limited and the required action is clear or can be readily referred to higher levels.

- TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

Perform a range of industrial cleaning tasks, move furniture, assist trades personnel with manual duties.

LEVEL 2

- TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS

Persons employed at Level 2 shall typically perform duties at a skill level which assumes and requires knowledge, training or experience relevant to the duties to be performed, or completion of year 12 without work experience or an equivalent combination of experience and training.

- OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT

Clerk, security patrol officer.

- LEVEL OF SUPERVISION

Routine supervision of straightforward tasks; close supervision of more complex tasks.

- TASK LEVEL

Perform a range of straightforward tasks where procedures are clearly established. May on occasion perform more complex tasks.

- ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Following training, may provide general information/advice and assistance to members of the public, students and other staff which is based on a broad knowledge of the employee's work area/responsibility, including knowledge of the functions carried out and the location and availability of particular personnel and services.

- JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING

Solve relatively simple problems with reference to established techniques and practices. Will sometimes choose between a range of straightforward alternatives. An employee at this level will be expected to perform a combination of various routine tasks where the daily work routine will allow the latitude or rearrange some work sequences, provided the prearranged work priorities are achieved.

- TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

Clerical positions at this level may include duties involving the inward and outward movement of mail, keeping, copying, maintaining and retrieving records, straightforward data entry and retrieval.

Security officers may be involved in a range of patrol duties, including responding to alarms, following emergency procedures and preparing incident reports.

LEVEL 3

- TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS

Persons employed at Level 3 shall typically perform duties at a skill level which assumes and requires knowledge or training in clerical/ administrative, trades or technical functions equivalent to:

- # completion of a trades certificate; or
- # completion of Year 12, with relevant work experience; or
- # equivalent relevant experience or combination of relevant experience and education/training

Persons advancing through this level may typically perform duties which require further on the job training or knowledge and training equivalent to progress toward completion of an advanced certificate or associate diploma.

- OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT

Tradesperson, technical assistant/technical trainee, clerical/secretarial.

- LEVEL OF SUPERVISION

In technical positions, routine supervision, moving to general direction with experience. In other positions, general direction. This is the first level where supervision of other staff may be required.

- TASK LEVEL

Some complexity. Apply body of knowledge equivalent to trade certificate, including diagnostic skills and assessment of the best approach to a given task.

- ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Perform tasks/assignments which require knowledge of the work area processes and an understanding of how they interact with other related areas and processes.

- JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING

Exercise judgment on work methods and task sequence within specified timelines and standard practices and procedures.

- TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

In trades positions, apply the skills taught in a trade certificate, including performance of a range of construction, maintenance and repair tasks, using precision hand and power tools and equipment. In some cases this will involve familiarity with the work of other trades or require further training.

In technical assistant positions,

- assist a technical officer in operating a laboratory, including ordering supplies
- assist in setting up routine experiments
- monitor experiments for report to a technical officer
- assist with the preparation of specimens
- assist with the feeding and care of animals.

Staff would be expected to perform a greater range and complexity of tasks as they progressed through the level and obtained further training.

In clerical positions, perform a range of clerical support tasks including

- standard use of a word processing package (including store and retrieve documents, key and lay out correspondence and reports, merge, move and copy, use of columns, tables and basic graphics) or an established spreadsheet or database application
- provide general clerical support to staff within a faculty, including word processing, setting up meetings, answering straightforward enquiries and directing others to the appropriate personnel
- process accounts for payment.

LEVEL 4

- **TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS**
Persons employed at Level 4 shall typically perform duties at a skill level which assumes and requires knowledge or training equivalent to:
 - # completion of an associate diploma level qualification with relevant work related experience or a certificate level qualification with post certificate relevant work experience;
 - # completion of a post trades certificate or advanced certificate and extensive relevant experience and on the job training; or
 - # an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/ training.
- **OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT**
Technical officer or technician, clerical/secretarial above Level 3, advanced trades person.
- **LEVEL OF SUPERVISION**
In technical positions, routine supervision to general direction depending upon experience and the complexity of the tasks. In other positions, general direction. May supervise or coordinate others to achieve objectives, including liaison with staff at higher levels. May undertake stand alone work.
- **TASK LEVEL**
May undertake limited creative, planning or design functions; apply skill so a varied range of different tasks.
- **ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE**
Perform tasks/assignments which require proficiency in the work area's rules, regulations, processes and techniques, and how they interact with other related functions.
- **JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING**
In trades positions, extensive diagnostic skills. In technical positions, apply theoretical knowledge and techniques to a range of procedures and tasks. In clerical/secretarial positions, provide factual advice which requires proficiency in the work area's rules and regulations, procedures requiring expertise in a specialist area or broad knowledge of a range of personnel and functions.
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
In trades positions,
 - work on complex engineering or interconnected electrical circuits
 - exercise high precision trades skills using various materials and/or specialised techniques.
In technical positions,
 - develop new equipment to criteria developed and specified by others
 - under routine direction, assist in the conduct of major experiments and research programs and/or in setting up complex or unusual equipment for a range of experiments and demonstration
 - demonstrate the use of equipment and prepare reports of a technical nature as directed.
In library technician positions,
 - undertake copy cataloguing
 - use a range of bibliographic databases
 - undertake acquisitions
 - respond to reference inquiries.
In clerical/secretarial positions,
 - may undertake a full range of word processing functions, including mathematical formulae and symbols, manipulation of text and layout in desktop publishing software and use of a range of word processing packages if required
 - be responsible for providing a full range of secretarial services in faculty
 - plan and set up spreadsheets or data base applications provide advice to students on enrolment procedures and requirements
 - administer enrolment and course progression records.

LEVEL 5

- **TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS**
Persons employed at Level 5 shall typically perform duties at a skill level which assumes and requires knowledge or training equivalent to
 - # completion of a degree without subsequent relevant work experience; or
 - # completion of an associate diploma and at least 2 years subsequent relevant work experience; or
 - # completion of a post trades certificate or advanced certificate and extensive relevant experience as a technician; or
 - # equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/ training.
- **OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT**
Graduate (ie, degree) or professional, without subsequent work experience on entry (including inexperienced computer systems officer); administrator with responsibility for advice and determinations; experienced technical officer.
- **LEVEL OF SUPERVISION**
In professional positions, routine supervision to general direction, depending on tasks involved and experience. In technical positions, general direction and may supervise other staff.
- **TASK LEVEL**
Apply body of broad technical knowledge and experience at a more advanced level than Level 4, including the development of areas of specialist expertise. In professional positions, apply theoretical knowledge, at degree level, in a straight forward way. In administrative positions, provide interpretation, advice and decisions on rules and entitlements.
- **ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE**
Perform tasks/assignments which require proficiency in the work area's rules, regulations, processes and techniques, and how they interact with other related functions.
- **JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING**
In professional positions, solve problems through the standard application of theoretical principles and techniques at degree level. In technical positions, apply standard technical training and experience to solve problems. In administrative positions, may apply expertise in a particular set of rules or regulations to make decisions, or be responsible for co-ordinating a team to provide an administrative service.
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
In technical positions,
 - develop new equipment to general specifications
 - under general direction, assist in the conduct of major experiments and research programs and/or in setting up complex unusual equipment for a range of experiments and demonstrations
 - under broad direction, set up, monitor and demonstrate standard experiments and equipment use
 - prepare reports of a technical nature.
In library technician positions, perform at a higher level than Level 4, including
 - assist with reader education programs and more complex bibliographic and acquisition services
 - operate a discrete unit within a library which may involve significant supervision or be the senior staff member in outposted service.
In administrative positions, responsible for the explanation and administration of an administrative function, eg, HECS advice, records, determinations and payments, a centralised enrolment function, the organisation and administration of exams at a small campus.

In professional positions and under professional supervision,
 - work as part of a research team in a support role
 - provide a range of library services including bibliographic assistance, original cataloguing and reader education in library and reference services
 - provide counselling services.

LEVEL 6

- **TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS**
Persons employed at Level 6 shall typically perform duties at a skill level which assumes and requires knowledge or training equivalent to:
 - # degree with subsequent relevant experience; or
 - # extensive experience and specialist expertise or broad knowledge in technical or administrative fields; or
 - # equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/ training.
- **OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT**
Graduate or professional with subsequent relevant work experience including a computer systems officer with some experience); line manager; experienced technical specialist and/or technical supervisor.
- **LEVEL OF SUPERVISION**
In professional positions, general direction; in other positions, broad direction. May have extensive supervisory and line management responsibility for technical, clerical, administrative and other non professional staff.
- **TASK LEVEL**
Perform work assignments guided by policy, precedent, professional standards and managerial or technical expertise. Employees would have the latitude to develop or redefine procedure and interpret policy so long as other work areas are not affected. In technical and administrative areas, have a depth or breadth of expertise developed through extensive relevant experience and application.
- **ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE**
Perform tasks/assignments which require proficiency in the work area's existing rules, regulations, processes and techniques and how they interact with other related functions, and to adapt those procedures and techniques as required to achieve objectives without impacting on other areas.
- **JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING**
Discretion to innovate within own function and take responsibility for outcomes; design, develop and test complex equipment, systems and procedures; undertake planning involving resources use and develop proposals for resource allocation; exercise high level diagnostic skills on sophisticated equipment or systems; analyse and report on data and experiments.
- **TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**
 - In technical positions,
 - manage a teaching or research laboratory or a field station
 - provide highly specialised technical services
 - set up complex experiments
 - design and construct complex or unusual equipment to general specifications
 - assist honours and postgraduate students with their laboratory requirements
 - install, repair, provide and demonstrate computer services in laboratories.
 - In administrative positions,
 - provide financial, policy and planning advice
 - service a range of administrative and academic committees, including preparation of agendas, papers, minutes and correspondence
 - monitor expenditure against budget in a school or small faculty.
 - In professional positions,
 - work as part of a research team
 - provide a range of library services, including bibliographic assistance, original cataloguing and reader education in library and reference services
 - provide counselling services
 - undertake a range of computer programming tasks
 - provide documentation and assistance to computer users
 - analyse less complex user and system requirements.

LEVEL 7

- TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS

Persons employed at Level 7 shall typically perform duties at a skill level which assumes and requires knowledge or training equivalent to:

- # degree with at least 4 years subsequent relevant experience; or

- # extensive experience and management expertise in technical or administrative fields; or

- # equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/ training.

- OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT

Senior librarian, technical manager, senior professional or scientific officer, senior administrator in a small less complex faculty.

- LEVEL OF SUPERVISION

Broad direction. May manage other administrative, technical and/or professional staff.

- TASK LEVEL

Independently relate existing policy to work assignments or rethink the way a specific body of knowledge is applied in order to solve problems. In professional or technical positions, may be a recognised authority in specialised area.

- ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Detailed knowledge of academic and administrative policies and their interrelationships between a range of policies and activities.

- JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING

Independently relate existing policy to work assignments, rethink the way specific body of knowledge is applied in order to solve problems, adapt procedures to fit policy prescriptions or use theoretical principles in modifying and adapting techniques. This may involve stand alone work or the supervision of others in order to achieve objectives. It may also involve the interpretation of policy which has an impact beyond the immediate work area.

- TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

In a library, combine specialist expertise and responsibility for managing library function; in student services, the training and supervision of other professional staff combined with policy development responsibilities which may include research and publication; in technical manager positions, the management of teaching and research facilities for department or school; in research positions, acknowledged expertise in specialised area or a combination of technical management and specialist research.

In administrative positions, provide less senior administrative support to relatively small and less complex faculties or equivalent.

LEVEL 8/9

- TRAINING LEVEL OR QUALIFICATIONS

Persons employed at Level 8/9 shall typically perform duties at a skill level which assumes and requires knowledge or training equivalent to:

- # postgraduate qualifications or progress towards postgraduate qualifications and extensive relevant experience; or
- # extensive experience and management expertise; or
- # equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/ training.

- OCCUPATIONAL EQUIVALENT

Researcher of national standing; manager; senior school or faculty administrator.

- LEVEL OF SUPERVISION

Broad direction. May manage other administrative, technical and/or professional staff.

- TASK LEVEL

Work at this level is likely to require the development of new ways of using a specific body of knowledge which applies to work assignments, or may involve the integration of other specific bodies of knowledge.

- ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

The employee would be expected to make policy recommendations to others and to implement programs involving major change which may impact on other areas of the institution's operations.

- JUDGMENT, INDEPENDENCE AND PROBLEM SOLVING

Responsible for program development and implementation. Provide strategic support and advice to schools or faculties requiring integration of a range of university policies and external requirements, and an ability to achieve objectives operating within complex organisation structures.

- TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

Assist in the management of a large functional unit with a diverse or complex set of functions and significant resources; manage a function or development and implementation of a policy requiring a high degree of knowledge and sensitivity; manage a small and specialised unit where significant innovation, initiative and/or judgment are required; provide senior administrative support to schools and faculties of medium complexity, taking into account the size, budget, course structure, external activities and management practices within the faculty or equivalent unit.

Modification History

Date:	Resolution no:	Authority:	Details:
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