Selection of Department Chairs.

Department Chairs collaborate with the Dean of the school to which their departments belong. As such, they assist the Dean in implementing College, school, and department policies and regulations within the department. Chairs are responsible for working with the Dean to establish department goals and promoting and supporting high professional standards within the department.

Department Chairs are elected by the full-time faculty (i.e., tenured, tenure-track, and long-term appointments without tenure) of the relevant department in elections held every one to three years, and approved by the Vice-President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) in consultation with the President and the appropriate Dean. If the VPAA does not accept the results of the election, the reasons for doing so will be relayed to the department in writing, and the department will hold a second election. If the outcome is not accepted by the VPAA, the latter will appoint a temporary Chair with a one-year term, and the department will hold another election within one year of the temporary appointment.

Department Chairs at Canisius College are normally full-time tenured faculty. In the rare event a department does not have a tenured faculty member available or willing to serve as Department Chair, a tenure-track faculty member may be selected as the Chair.

The expected term of office (normally three years) for a Department Chair is set forth in the letter of appointment. Notwithstanding the term specified in a letter of appointment, Department Chairs may be removed by the VPAA in consultation with the appropriate academic Dean if the Chair is ineffective in carrying out their duties.

Department Chairs are granted a teaching-load reduction and receive a stipend in addition to their current faculty salary.

As part of their regular annual review, department chairs are evaluated by a departmental committee, both as faculty members and in their service as chair.