

Research Criteria for Tenure at the Amsterdam School of Economics

January 2015

In 2014, the ASE has formulated its ambition and strategic choices regarding research, teaching and personnel policy. A central ambition is to belong to the top 10 economics departments in Europe based on research performance. To reach this goal, the research time criteria for tenured faculty members have been aligned with the requirements for research fellowship of the Tinbergen Institute, based on article influence scores (AIS). In short, standard research time is awarded if the best 5 publications in the most recent 5-year period are in journals with cumulative AIS of 5 or more.

As formulated in the FEB Tenure Track document, the same criteria should at least be satisfied to obtain tenure and promotion to associate professor after a six-year tenure track. In addition, the research and its importance should be recognized (internationally) by colleagues, and the ASE requires that criteria for tenure are in line with the requirements applied at the European top 10 of relevant departments.

Therefore, to obtain tenure at the ASE, the candidate should satisfy the following additional criteria:

- The tenure track portfolio should contain either three publications in journals with an AIS of 1.5 or higher, or one publication in a journal with an AIS of 5 or higher, and one other publication in a journal with an AIS of 1.5 or higher¹.
- Each of these journals should be in the Economics or Business, Finance categories according to the ISI Web of Knowledge.
- One of these articles should be single-authored.

The idea is that the candidate's research has demonstrable impact with at least three articles in medium-impact (possibly field) journals, where a publication in a top journal (the top five economics journals all have an AIS higher than 5) counts as two medium-impact publications. Publication strategies aimed at quantity instead of quality are hereby discouraged. The requirement that at least one of these publications is single-authored will be satisfied if the job market paper (which is typically single-authored) is published in a good journal.

It should be emphasized that like all quantitative criteria, these requirements are indicative, in the sense that the tenure decision is not guaranteed to be positive if the criteria are satisfied. The Promotion and Tenure Committee is expected to evaluate the candidate's publication output and take the result into account when formulating the tenure decision. The criteria formulated above provide a yardstick for this purpose.

To ascertain that the ASE criteria are indeed in line with requirements at the European top 10 departments, the CV and publications of the candidate will be submitted to researchers at such top departments, active in the same field as the candidate, with the request to compare the candidate's research output with others of the same cohort, and to assess whether the candidate would be considered for tenure at their departments.

¹ The AIS is determined as described in the Research Time Criteria of the Amsterdam School of Economics Research Institute (see <http://aseri.uva.nl/institute/institute.html>).