

November 3, 2021

Statement on Changes to Post-Tenure Review in the University of Georgia System

The Southern Political Science Association strongly opposes the recent changes to post-tenure review in the University System of Georgia. The mission of the Southern Political Science Association is to improve teaching and research in the discipline of political science, and we think that these policy changes drastically diminish the ability of tenured faculty at Georgia's public colleges and universities to pursue this mission. Academic freedom is the very foundation of teaching and scholarship and all faculty, political scientists, in particular-given the subject matter of their research and teaching—are at risk when the protection of the tenure system and academic freedom is weakened. We call upon the University System of Georgia Board of Regents to reverse the changes to post-tenure review that weaken the protection of tenure and academic freedom.

Signed on behalf of the Council and Members of the Association:

Christopher Wlezien Christopher Wlezien, SPSA President

Marc Hetherington SPSA President-Elect

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Cherie D. Maestas, SPSA Immediate Past President

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