



October 25, 2021

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

The American Political Science Association condemns the recent [changes](#) to post-tenure review in the University System of Georgia. These changes drastically weaken the protections afforded to tenured faculty at Georgia's public universities and potentially will serve to undermine academic freedom in the process. Tenure is a foundational part of academic freedom and the pedagogical and scholarly enterprise. Faculty, and political scientists, in particular— given the subject matter of their research and teaching—are put at risk when the protection of the tenure system and academic freedom is weakened. These policy changes are unacceptable and threaten to hinder the ability for all faculty to meet their professional obligations to their students, colleagues, and institutions. We call upon the University System of Georgia Board of Regents to reverse the policy changes that weaken the protection of tenure and academic freedom.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ishiyama".

John Ishiyama  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Martin".

Lisa Martin  
President-Elect

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier".

Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier  
Past President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Rathgeb Smith".

Steven Rathgeb Smith  
Executive Director

###

*Founded in 1903, the American Political Science Association is the leading professional organization for the study of political science and serves more than 12,000 members in more than 80 countries. With a range of programs and services for individuals, departments, and institutions, APSA brings together political scientists from all fields of inquiry, regions, and occupational endeavors within and outside academe to deepen our understanding of politics, democracy, and citizenship throughout the world.*