

**Resolution No. 24-04(B)*****Approval of Tenure for Dr. Shonda Lawrence, Associate Professor of Social Work in the College of Health and Human Services, and Dr. Rupa Potti, Associate Professor of Nursing in the College of Health and Human Services***

**WHEREAS,** The Board of Trustees of Governors State University (the “Board” and “University,” respectively) was created on January 1, 1996, by Public Act 89-4 to operate, manage, control, and maintain Governors State University in accordance with the rights, powers, and duties vested by law in the Board;

**WHEREAS,** The Board is comprised of eight members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor of Illinois with the advice and consent of the Senate, and one whom is a Governors State University student selected by student peers;

**WHEREAS,** The Board is empowered to operate, manage, control, and maintain the University and prescribe the courses of study to be followed pursuant to Sections 15-10 and 15-45 of the Illinois Governors State University Law, 110 ILCS 670/15-1 *et seq.*;

**WHEREAS,** Pursuant to Board Regulation II(A)(3)(b)(i), Board approval is required for the award of tenure;

**WHEREAS,** Dr. Shonda Lawrence, and Dr. Rupa Potti is being evaluated for the consideration of tenure based on Section 20.7 of the GSU-UPI Agreement, which states:

20.7 TENURE UPON HIRE: If in the opinion of the Provost, a candidate for a Unit A Faculty position who is tenured at an accredited, Bachelor’s degree granting institution meets the tenure requirements as set forth in the relevant Division Criteria, the Provost may recommend to the President that the candidate be offered tenure upon initial hire and may also recommend whether the candidate be hired as an Associate or Full Professor. The Provost shall set forth the reasons for his/her recommendation in writing. The President, upon consideration of the recommendation of the

Provost, shall submit her/his recommendation in writing to the Board for consideration.

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Shonda Lawrence was evaluated using the Social Work Department Criteria and found to be highly effective in teaching, highly significant in research, and effective in service;

**WHEREAS**, The Department Chair of Social work and the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services have recommended the award of tenure at hire to Dr. Lawrence;

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Rupa Potti was evaluated using the Nursing Department Criteria and found to be highly effective in teaching, highly significant in research, and effective in service;

**WHEREAS**, The Department Chair of Nursing and the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services have recommended the award of tenure at hire to Dr. Potti; and

**WHEREAS**, The President, upon advice of the Provost and an independent review of Dr. Lawrence's qualifications and Dr. Potti's qualifications, does hereby recommend that the Board award both Dr. Lawrence and Dr. Potti tenure upon hire.

Now, therefore, it is:

*Resolved* that the Board approves and recognizes Dr. Shonda Lawrence's expertise and grants her all rights and privileges as an associate professor with tenure upon hire with Governors State University within the Department of Social Work and the College of Health and Human Services.

*Resolved* that the Board approves and recognizes Dr. Rupa Potti's expertise and grants her all rights and privileges as an associate professor with tenure upon hire with Governors State University within the Department of nursing and the College of health and Human Services.

***Approved October 23, 2023***

  
Angela M. Sebastian, Chair

  
James Kvedaras, Secretary