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Ten Questions to Ask Your Chair/Colleagues in Your First Year as a New Faculty Member

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Ten Questions to Ask Your Chair/Colleagues in Your First Year as a New Faculty Member

1. Who will be mentoring me? Does the department have a mentoring plan for me? How often will I be meeting with you?
2. How long should I expect it to take to get my office/lab set up, my computer and keys?
3. How much time should I be spending on my courses? What's the line between sufficient preparation and overpreparation?
4. What are the expectations for me this year in terms of research, and mentoring grad students?
5. Where could I fit in best in terms of supporting the department with service? What do I do if someone outside the department, like the dean, requests service work from me?
6. When will I be coming up for review? When will I have to fill out an Annual Faculty Report? (If relevant) how is a 4.2 mini-tenure review different from tenure review?
7. What help should I expect from support staff? How do I build rapport with staff?
8. What if I have a problem with a student, staff member, or colleague; where do I go for help?
9. Does our department use bylaws, and if so, where can I find them?
10. What are some ways to take breaks? What do you do for fun here in Western Mass?

For more information, resources, and tools go to: <https://www.umass.edu/advance/home>

