of the following criteria must be used by departments when submitting written requests to PCAPC for exceptions to standard block times. In order to prepare for the 2024-2025 academic year, the committee asks that requests be made by the end of February.

## Faculty Handbook Committee

The committee continues its work on updating language to allow faculty to upload evaluation materials to the University-provided system, currently on SharePoint. This will align the evaluation process and the rank and tenure process.

## **UPDATES**

- Two accounting Ph.D. students won The Institute of Internal Auditors Michael J. Barrett Doctoral Dissertation Award this year, becoming the third and fourth doctoral students to win this highly-coveted prize in just the past 4 year. We are the leading institution for the number of doctoral students that have received this award.
- Accounting students are offering free assistance in completing and filing federal, state and local tax returns to area residents that meet the requirements through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.
- The Scranton Area Community Foundation has awarded a \$5,000 grant to support the
- Black History Film Series, presented by The Louis Stanley Brown Black Student Union, and the Weinberg Memorial Library will be shown throughout February. For details visits <a href="https://news.scranton.edu/articles/2023/01/fac-black-history-month-film-series.shtml">https://news.scranton.edu/articles/2023/01/fac-black-history-month-film-series.shtml</a>
- Diversity/Inclusion Lunch and Learn Series for staff and faculty have been scheduled for the spring semester.
  - March 8<sup>th</sup> will be presented by Dr. Paul Datti.
  - o April 11<sup>th</sup> presented by Dr. Ovidiu Cocieru.
  - o May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Community-Based