

Research Faculty Title Series

Statement of Evidence

(approved by Department Nov. 2016)

Reapproved 10-4-2024

Definition

The Research Title Series is a professorial series for appointment and promotion of appropriately qualified individuals who participate in the University's academic program but whose activities shall be limited to participation in projects which (1) involve research or other creative activity, (2) are of limited and specified duration, and (3) the institution operates under contracts, grants, or other designated funds. A faculty employee on appointment in the Research Title Series shall not have any regularly-scheduled teaching or service assignments. Interim appointment and payment of salary from funds other than those associated with contracts, grants, and other designated funds may occur, with approval of the Provost, when there is a gap of six months or less between approved contracts, grants, or other sources of designated funds. However, in such circumstances, the appointee's assignment shall be completely consistent in a general sense with the duties which the individual had and will be expected to continue under a program for research or other creative activity which is supported from contracts, grants, or other designated funds.

Areas of Activity

Three areas of activity are important in the evaluation of individuals for appointment, performance review, and promotion in the Research Title Series: (1) research or other creative activity; (2) professional status and activity; and (3) ability to initiate and maintain a program of research or creative activity supported by contracts, grants, or other designated funds.

Academic Ranks and Criteria for Promotion

The academic ranks and related titles in the Research Title Series shall be: (1) Assistant Research Professor; (2) Associate Research Professor; and (3) Research Professor.

The standards identified here represent types of evidence that will be considered in a promotion review in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Productivity in the areas of research and administration should be consistent with identified percentage allocations for activities in a faculty member's Distribution of Effort (DOE) document. Promotion among faculty ranks assumes increasing degrees of importance, depth, impact, and/or reach of research activities and increasing responsibility and/or complexity of administrative activities, as appropriate to the assignments.

Faculty in the Research title series shall be appointed for a specific term not to exceed two years or if for a lesser period of time, the period of funding from the contract, grant, or other designated funds. A faculty employee may be reappointed in the Research Title Series for one or more additional terms, contingent upon continuity of funding and the individual's accomplishments

A. Standards for Appointment and Reappointment at the Assistant Research Professor Level

1. Appointment to the rank of Assistant Research Professor shall be made when it has been determined that the individual has a current independent capability for conducting reliable research or other creative work supported through contracts, grants, or other designated funds, has a potential for significant professional growth in the field of research or creative activity, and holds the terminal academic degree appropriate to the field of assignment.
2. Given the time limits and funding constraints, the candidate for reappointment to the rank of Assistant Research Professor must provide evidence of continued significant participation in successful efforts to obtain external funding that supports the candidate's research efforts and furthers the mission of the Department and College. Candidates must also provide evidence of continuing to meet requirements of grants and/or contracts and document professional growth in the areas of research or other creative activity and professional status and activity.

A. Promotion from Assistant Research Professor to Associate Research Professor

Appointment or promotion to the rank of Associate Research Professor shall be made only after an indication of continuous improvement and contribution by the individual in research or other

creative activity supported through contracts, grants, or other designated funds. Furthermore, the individual shall have earned some regional recognition for excellence appropriate to the field of assignment.

B. Promotion from Associate Research Professor to Full Research Professor

Appointment or promotion to the rank of Research Professor is an indication that, in the opinions of colleagues and administrators, the individual is outstanding in research or other creative activity supported through contracts, grants, or other designated funds and has earned national and, perhaps, international recognition. It should be further emphasized that this rank is a recognition of attainment rather than years of experience or length of appointment.

Research and other creative activity is expected to remain at high levels while its significance, impact, and reach increases. The nature of creative activity may shift as faculty members attain more senior standing in their fields.

The standards of evidence are listed in order of priority for expectations in promotion decisions.

Standard 1. Research or other Creative Activity

Evidence of research and other creative activity may include, but is not limited to refereed journal publications, books/book chapters, research/project reports, products of grant/contract activities.

Guidelines:

1. Journal articles should appear in high impact refereed journals with faculty member as first author on a substantial number of articles published.
2. Quality of a journal is considered based on evidence such as its impact factor, acceptance rate, and sponsorship by a major professional organization.
3. It is expected that any publications should be original disciplined inquiry reflecting theoretical perspectives that incorporate rigorous research methodologies.
4. The trajectory of publications should provide strong evidence for a record of relatively consistent or increasing research productivity. The trajectory should also demonstrate a coherent program of research with publications that translate findings for the broader audiences served by a curriculum and instruction department in a land grant university context.
5. The review process for all publications should be indicated.
6. The ways in which research and other creative activities support and further the missions of the Department, College, and University must be clearly indicated.

Standard 2. Professional Status and Activity

Evidence of professional status and activity may include, but is not limited to, presentations to professional organizations, testimony before governmental/regulatory bodies, leadership in professional organizations or governmental/regulatory bodies.

Guidelines:

1. If presentations and/or testimony are invited or refereed, this should be indicated.
2. The impact of any professional activity must be clearly demonstrated.
3. The ways in which grants/contract activities support and further the missions of the Department, College, and University must be clearly indicated.

Standard 3. Ability to Initiate and Maintain a Program of Research or Creative Activity Supported by Contracts, Grants, or Other Designated Funds

Evidence of ability to initiate and maintain a program of research or creative activity supported by contracts, grants, or other designated funds may include, but is not limited to, grant applications (funded and not funded), contracts and other negotiated funding instruments, administrative activities related to grants and/or contracts.

Guidelines:

1. If grants/contracts are invited, this should be indicated.
2. The funding amounts, durations, and current status of grants/contracts should be indicated.
3. The impact of any funded activity must be clearly demonstrated.
4. The ways in which grants/contract activities support and further the missions of the Department, College, and University must be clearly indicated.
5. The faculty member's role in acquiring and/or managing the grants/contracts should be clearly indicated (e.g. oversight versus direct involvement in investigation or implementation; acquisition of grant or contract versus maintenance of existing grant or contract).



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College: College of Education

Unit: Curriculum and Instruction

Approved by Provost: Tannock, 3/10/2025

Approved by College Dean: 10/4/2024

Approved by Unit Director (Indicating Approval by Faculty): 10/4/2024