Campus Administrative Policy

Policy Title: Distinguished Professorships

Policy Number: 1010  Functional Area: Academic and Faculty Affairs

Effective: July 1, 2013
Date Last Amended/Reviewed: July 1, 2013 October 5, 2018
Date Scheduled for Review: June 30 July 1, 2025
Supersedes: Distinguished Professorships July 1, 2013 April 1, 2012

Approved by:
Chancellor Donald M. Elliman Jr., CU Anschutz Medical Campus
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Reviewing Office: Chancellors
Responsible Officer: Chancellors

Applies to: All Campuses

A. INTRODUCTION

The designation “Distinguished Professor” is bestowed upon a select group of faculty members to recognize their outstanding contributions to their academic disciplines. Consistent with Regent policy, this policy sets forth procedures for nominating candidates at University of Colorado Denver and University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus for consideration for designation as distinguished professors.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

1. Faculty members must be recommended by colleagues to be considered by the campus for nomination to a Distinguished Professorship.
2. Proposals for nominations to a Distinguished Professorship must be made in accordance with this policy.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. “Distinguished Professor” is a university-wide designation and the highest honor that the University bestows on its own faculty members in recognition of their
48. outstanding contributions to their academic disciplines.
49. 2. The “Chancellor’s Review Committee” (CRC) shall be chaired by the associate
50. vice chancellor for academic affairs. The CRC will be convened in the spring if a
51. nomination is received by the chancellor.
52. 3. The associate vice chancellor for academic affairs shall appoint no more than four
53. faculty members from the Denver Campus and no more than four faculty
54. members from the CU Anschutz Medical Campus to serve on the Chancellor’s
55. Review Committee. Members will be senior faculty peers who have been
56. recognized for their research and scholarly contributions, e.g., Distinguished
57. Professors or winners of major research/creative activity awards.

D. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for nomination for a Distinguished Professorship, a faculty member must meet
all of the following criteria:

1. Must have served at least five years at University of Colorado Denver and/or an
   affiliate institution; waiverable with approval of two-thirds of the
   Chancellor’s Review Committee members and unanimous approval by the
   members of the president’s advisory committee.

2. Must have a record of excellence in both classroom teaching and supervision of
   individual learning. The latter may include undergraduate research and independent
   study, graduate research, theses, dissertations, clinical education, and mentoring;

3. Must have a record of distinguished performance in research, scholarly or creative
   work; and

4. Must have national and, where appropriate, international recognition and must have
   had a major impact by changing or greatly influencing the direction of their field; and

5. Must have a record of outstanding leadership and service to the profession and to
   the University and/or affiliate institutions.

E. MATERIALS SUBMITTED

The nominator must prepare a dossier demonstrating evidence of excellence in teaching and
learning; evidence concerning the faculty member’s distinguished accomplishments in
research or creative work; and evidence of outstanding service to the profession and to the
University and/or affiliate institutions. A detailed description of the requirements for the
dossier and guidelines for developing the dossier may be found in the Administrative Policy
Statement, “Procedures for Implementing Regent Actions on Distinguished Professorships”
(https://www.cu.edu/ope/aps/1017).

F. PROCESS

1. The Chancellor will solicit annually nominations for Distinguished Professorships
   by September 15 early in the fall term.

2. The nominator(s) may propose to the dean at any time that the faculty member be
   considered for nomination to a Distinguished Professorship.

3. The nominator(s) solicits external and internal letters regarding the candidate’s
   teaching, research, scholarly, and leadership and service accomplishments.

4. The nominator(s) prepares a dossier as specified above in E, and submits it to the
   dean by March 1.
5. The dean reviews the dossier and prepares a letter of transmittal to the chancellor and sends the dossier, letter of transmittal and supporting documentation to the chancellor or chancellor’s designee by April 1.

6. The chancellor will refer nomination(s) to the chair of the Chancellor’s Review Committee, who will convene the committee.

7. The primary nominator and/or the dean of the school/college or library shall present the nomination to the Chancellor’s Review Committee.

8. The Chancellor’s Review Committee shall review the nomination(s) and make a recommendation to the chancellor by June 1.

9. The chancellor will review the Committee’s recommendation(s) in consultation with the Provost. If the chancellor supports the nomination of a faculty member for a Distinguished Professorship, the chancellor will forward the faculty member’s dossier, supporting documentation, and a letter of recommendation to the President’s Office by July 1.

Notes

1. Dates of official enactment and amendments:
The Chancellor enacted this policy on February 7, 2006. It was amended on April 1, 2012, on July 1, 2013, and October 5, 2018.

2. History:
April 1, 2012: Amended to match system policy (APS 1017) changes and describe campus processes it has been practiced, not as originally described.
July 1, 2013: Revised with minor edits/clarification arising from system policy changes.
May 9, 2018: Edited for format on May 9, 2018 to reflect a 2018 Campus-wide effort to recast and revitalize various Campus policy sites into a standardized and more coherent set of chaptered policy statement organized around the several operational divisions of the university.
October 5, 2018: Revised to match system policy changes.

3. Initial Policy Effective Date: April 1, 2012

4. Cross References/Appendix:
Board of Regents Article 9: Designations and Regents Awards
APS 1017: Procedures for Implementing Regent Actions on Distinguished Professorships