



Administrative Policy

Title: Distinguished Professorships

Source: Chancellor's Office

Prepared by: Office of the Provost

Approved by: Donald Elliman
Chancellor

Effective Date: July 1, 2013

Replaces: April 1, 2012

Applies: 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 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 outstanding contributions to their academic disciplines.
2. The "Chancellor's Review Committee" (CRC) shall be chaired by the associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. The CRC will be convened in the Spring if a nomination is received by the chancellor.
3. The associate vice chancellor for academic affairs shall appoint no more than four faculty members from the Denver Campus and no more than four faculty members from the Anschutz Medical Campus to serve on the Chancellor's Review Committee. Members will be senior faculty peers who have been recognized for their research and scholarly contributions, e.g., Distinguished 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;
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 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 his/her field; and
5. Must have a record of outstanding 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 may be found in the Administrative Policy Statement, "Procedures for Implementing Regent Actions on Distinguished Professorships" (<https://www.cu.edu/policies/Academic/Distinguished-Professors.pdf>).

F. Process

1. The Chancellor will solicit annually nominations for Distinguished Professorships by September 15.
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, 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). 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.