

Named and University Distinguished Professors – Nomination Considerations (Approved June 1976; updated 1996)

Examples of items to be considered in preparing nominations. It is expected that nominees will be truly distinguished in most of the following criteria. If a nominee does not have a record of excellence in a specific activity or measure, such an activity or measure must be deemed not essential to full performance in that Named or University Professorship.

Honors and Awards

University Level – for teaching & scholarship
Community
State
National
International
Professional Organizations (highest level of membership and recognition)
Governmental Organizations
Private Organizations

Invited Presentations (number of each)

University Level
Community and State Level
National
International (number of different countries)
Prestigious of the invitations (e.g., international congresses)

Publications

Breadth of topics (number of distinct areas, e.g., starts an area, lets others fill in details)
Journals' prestige
Books' prestige
Number of publications and numbers of pages
Types of publications (research, teaching, popular, etc.)
Number of different articles reprinted in other (secondary) books
Number of books and articles reprinted in foreign languages
Number of articles that started a particular movement (key articles to which others refer in the history of the movement)
Reprint demand
Author index check of top ten books in field
An article or book that has held the distinction of being a "classic" in the field

Colleague Support

Within the Department

Within the School

Within the University

At other universities or learned associations regardless of country (prestige of those writing letters of support)

Support by those in close association

Support by those who know the "name" only in this country and other countries; by those who hold different orientations; who are interdisciplinary or multitheoretical

Scholarly Significance of Current and Future Activity

Record to date on quantity and quality of scholarly production

Number of successful new scholarly pursuits

Current movement toward a new area or new perspectives

Ability to communicate to other disciplines (evidence that other disciplines have reviewed nominee's work)

Teaching Ability

Student support - current and past

Number of graduate students supervised during professional career

Concern for students shown through quality of lectures, availability, psychological support, contact outside classroom

Ability to teach in other departments or schools (breadth and expertise in many academic areas)

Former students' professional success, type of appointments in prestige of universities or institutions where appointed

Establishment of a Research or Learned "Center" for Scholarly Pursuits

Pacemaker in setting intellectual climate; a catalyst for fruitful lines of inquiry; generator of unique ideas

Presence has attracted other scholars

Number of grants from outside the University (as the principal investigator)

Size of grants

History of grant success across professional career

Number of scholars from U.S. and other countries who arrange travel itineraries to meet with nominee

Consultantships

Type of organizations (e.g., Advisory Boards)

Nature of tasks (e.g., site visitor, committee reviewer)

Number during professional career

Presence (e.g., name on organization roster) lends credibility to organization

Editorial Experience

Positions (e.g., editor, reviewer)

Books – prestige of

Journals – prestige of

Tolerance toward different positions in others' writings

Objectivity and dedication to serious review

Demand for Teaching and Research from Other Scholarly Institutions

Number of institutions that seek nominee's services on permanent basis and as visiting professor

Prestige of these institutions

[Note: These examples of items to be considered in preparing nominations for named and distinguished professorships appeared as Part III of the “Procedures and Criteria for Appointment of Named and University Distinguished Professors” approved in 1976 and printed in subsequent revisions of the Handbook for Faculty and Other Unclassified Staff.]

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