

## **APPOINTMENT AND PROMOTION: APM - 260 – University Professor**

### **260-0 Policy**

- a. The title University Professor is reserved for scholars of the highest international distinction who are recognized and honored as the top scholars on their campus and are respected as teachers of exceptional ability.
- b. Appointees to this title shall be distinguished members of the University of California Academic Senate who hold the rank of full Professor, Above Scale.
- c. An appointment as University Professor does not alter the faculty member's appointment on the home campus. An appointment to this title confers affiliation with the entire University of California.
- d. An appointment as University Professor is for an indefinite term unless rescinded by The Regents. Upon retirement, a University Professor becomes University Professor Emeritus. Pursuant to [APM - 200-22](#), emeritus University Professors may be recalled to active service on a year-to-year basis.
- e. While no arbitrary limit is placed upon the number of University Professors in active service during any period, the special responsibilities of the title and the rigor of the selection process are expected to keep the group quite small.

### **260-10 Criteria**

A candidate for appointment as a University Professor shall be judged by the following criteria:

- a. The candidate must be recognized nationally and internationally as a distinguished scholar whose work is of recognized superior quality according to the standards set by leading scholars in the field. There should be evidence that the candidate has made stellar contributions in the field, has conducted and published seminal research, and continues to produce original work. At the time of nomination, the candidate must be a member of the University of California Academic Senate who holds the rank of full Professor, Above Scale.
- b. The candidate must be a successful teacher of exceptional ability. The candidate's ability and desire to teach, stimulate, and inspire and to communicate effectively with students should not be limited to majors and specialists in the individual's particular discipline. There should be evidence that the candidate excels at all levels of teaching including undergraduate courses, graduate courses, thesis supervision, and/or professional courses, depending on the candidate's discipline.

- c. The candidate must have interests and accomplishments that extend beyond a particular scientific, scholarly, or creative specialty and must also demonstrate a willingness to serve the University beyond the home campus. There should be evidence that the candidate has provided exemplary University and public service.

### **260-20 Conditions of Employment**

A University Professor shall retain an appointment in a home department on the home campus. Visits to other campuses for formal and informal seminars and meetings with faculty and students, relating to both teaching and research or other creative work, are encouraged. Normally, the University Professor will not receive additional compensation for these services. The University Professor may also be called upon to address general audiences and serve the University in other appropriate ways.

More extended assignments to serve on another campus may be arranged. In any event, teaching assignments on the home campus shall be made with due regard for all such other activities as described above.

### **260-22 Funding**

The salaries of University Professors shall be budgeted in their home departments.

### **260-24 Authority**

Appointment of a University Professor shall be made by The Regents, upon recommendation by the President, after appropriate review as set forth in APM - 260-80.

### **260-80 Procedure for Appointment**

- a. A recommendation for appointment to this title will ordinarily originate in the home department of the candidate, and shall be supported by ample documentation of the individual's qualifications consistent with procedures for promotion reviews. Because appointments to the University Professor title are so rigorously evaluated, the home department is urged to consult at an early stage of the nomination process with the school/college and campus administration regarding the feasibility of a recommendation for appointment.

In framing the proposal, the recommending officer will find it useful to follow the instructions to review committees (see [APM - 210-1](#)) as a basic guide to proper documentation, which shall include a complete, up-to-date bio-bibliographical record. Particular care should be exercised in assuring that an objective and representative sampling of opinion is obtained from within as well as outside the University and not solely from distinguished individuals in the candidate's own discipline. The views or opinions of a broad spectrum of current and former students shall be included.

In addition, the candidate should submit a statement which indicates a willingness to serve as University Professor and a general outline of plans for fulfilling the responsibilities of a University Professor.

- b. Review at the campus level shall include review by the appropriate Academic Senate committee. The committee report shall be submitted to the Chancellor. At all stages of the review process, absolute confidentiality must be maintained.
- c. If the Chancellor approves the nomination, the Chancellor will forward the complete file with a recommendation to the President.
- d. The President will appoint an ad hoc faculty review committee of members nominated for the particular case by the University Committee on Academic Personnel (UCAP). Such committee (ordinarily of five members) shall be composed of full Professors and shall include members from at least three campuses, including the home campus. (The appropriate Academic Senate committee of the home campus should also suggest names for members of the ad hoc committee. The President will forward such suggestions to the UCAP.)

The ad hoc committee shall be furnished the file as forwarded by the Chancellor. Request for additional information, when and if needed by the committee, shall be addressed to the Provost and Senior Vice President– Academic Affairs.

The ad hoc committee shall act as promptly as possible and provide a report of its review and comments to the President.

- e. Prior to a decision, the President will consult with the University Committee on Academic Personnel for its recommendation. The President will make a decision as to appropriate action on the basis of the accumulated evidence and recommendations. If the decision is in favor of the proposed appointment, the President will recommend the candidate to The Regents for final approval.
- f. If The Regents approve the appointment, the President will notify the individual.

### **Revision History**

October 31, 2024:

- Technical revision to remove Presidential and campus funding for support for Universitywide duties to reflect current practice.

For details on prior revisions, please visit the [policy issuance web page](#).