

Policies of the University of North Texas	Chapter 6
06.016 University Distinguished Research Professorship	Faculty Affairs

Policy Statement. The University Distinguished Research Professorship award recognizes tenured faculty at the rank of professor who have achieved an exceptionally outstanding record of creative activities or research productivity and who demonstrate a record of continued extraordinary productivity.

Application of Policy. Full-time tenured faculty at the rank of Professor.

Definitions. None.

Procedures and Responsibilities.

1. Award.

The award consists of the designation "University Distinguished Research Professor" and a one-time supplement of five thousand dollars (\$5000) added to the recipient’s base salary. Up to five awards may be made per year provided that no more than five percent of faculty at the rank of professor may hold the designation “University Distinguished Research Professor” at any one time. In the event that the supplement is increased, the difference would be added to the base salary for individuals currently holding the title University Distinguished Research Professor.

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs may approve an exception to the five percent/five award limit upon recommendation by a dean in order to recruit a highly accomplished professor who has achieved an exceptionally outstanding record of creative activities or research productivity at another university or organization and who demonstrates a record of continued extraordinary productivity.

2. Eligibility.

To be eligible for this award, an individual must:

- i. be a full-time, tenured faculty member at the rank of professor;
- ii. have a record of exceptionally distinguished research or creative activity; and
- iii. demonstrate evidence of the potential for continued extraordinary productivity.

3. Selection.

Nominations for the designation of University Distinguished Research Professor shall be made by the department chair and submitted to the school or college dean. A candidate's nomination must be based upon a record of sustained excellence over the course of his/her career. The University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee will develop and distribute selection criteria and application procedures.

School or college nominations shall be forwarded by the school or college dean to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs for consideration, and final nominations for the awards shall be submitted to the President by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, acting in light of the recommendation of the University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee (except as noted above for the purpose of recruitment).

Responsible Party: Department Chair; College Dean; Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

4. Restrictions.

Faculty who hold the University Distinguished Research Professor distinction shall not be eligible to hold the title of Regents Professor or University Distinguished Teaching Professor simultaneously. A faculty member may only receive one salary supplement for holding the title of Distinguished Research, Distinguished Teaching, or Regents Professor, as such, the salary supplement is not intended to be additive upon change in title. If a faculty member relinquishes the University Distinguished Research Professor to become a Regents Professor or University Distinguished Teaching Professor, the faculty member will receive the salary supplement for only one of the designations, whichever is the higher amount.

5. Retirement and Emeritus Status.

An individual who retires from faculty status while holding the designation of University Distinguished Research Professor shall be eligible to receive the designation of University Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus, pending approval from the Board of Regents (See Regents Rule 06.300)The salary supplement held during regular service prior to retirement shall be included as part of the base salary for the purpose of determining the salary of a University Distinguished Research Professor who goes on modified service. Distinguished Research Professors Emeriti shall not be counted against the University's maximum of five percent of professors who may hold the rank of University Distinguished University Research Professor.

6. Review of Performance.

The designation of University Distinguished Research Professor shall be reviewed by the University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee in the fifth year after the designation has been awarded and every fifth year thereafter as long as the designation is held. Criteria and procedures for review are developed and distributed by the committee. Continued eligibility for the designation shall be based on ongoing productivity and excellence.

The committee shall recommend whether the designation should continue. In the event the determination is made that a person should not continue to be a University Distinguished Research Professor, the salary supplement that accompanied the initial designation shall be retained by the faculty member.

Specific procedures for the conduct of these reviews shall be adopted and published by the University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee.

Responsible Party: University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee

7. Composition of Selection and Review Committee.

The University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee shall consist of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development or designee, the Provost and the Vice President for Academic Affairs, or designee, and six tenured full professors, serving staggered three year terms,. Three faculty committee members shall be selected by the Faculty Senate and three by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. At least one-half of the committee's faculty members shall be University Distinguished Research Professors. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, or designee, shall serve as chair of the University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee.

Responsible Party: Vice President for Research and Economic Development; Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Faculty Senate.

The University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee may adopt and publish additional procedures and application standards for review of candidates for the award consistent with this policy.

Responsible Party: University Distinguished Research Professor Selection and Review Committee

Approved: 4/1/2009

Effective: 4/7/2009

Revised: 5/7/2014