



Distinguished University Research Professor

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Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

The appointment of Loyola University Chicago professors as “distinguished” is the recognition of their scholarship and intellectual achievements and is an honor bestowed by the University upon the recommendation of a Dean of a College or School. The distinguished professor acclamation sets awardees apart from their contemporaries, signaling their tremendous value to the academic arena at large. Distinguished professors are expected to make long-standing contributions to the intellectual life and rigor of their departments and schools as well as to the university as a whole and the wider scholarly communities. In short, their presence should elevate the standards of scholarship within their academic field and beyond.

The criteria for identifying faculty persons for a distinguished professorship are described below.

- Full professor, generally at rank for a period of 5 or more years;
- An outstanding record of scholarly or creative/artistic productivity and accomplishments and a reputation of national or international prominence as assessed by letters from internal and external peers;
- A substantial contribution to the intellectual life of their discipline, department, and the university;
- Evidence of effective teaching and dedicated mentorship of undergraduate and/or graduate and professional students and a demonstrated ability to launch the successful educational or professional trajectories of graduates;
- Participation in public discourse about issues that are germane to their primary intellectual and scholarly pursuits;
- A program of study that appreciates the value of interdisciplinarity and the cross-fertilization of theories, methodologies, and conceptual frameworks;
- A history of service in support of the university’s core values; and
- An expectation for continued participation in research to meet the above criteria.

The process for selecting a distinguished professor will involve the following steps. The dean of each respective school will review any nomination for the appointment, which will include a detailed letter from the person nominating the candidate, the candidate’s *Curriculum Vitae*, and a sample of publications and other materials that speak to the candidate’s scholarship, teaching, and service to the university and larger community. Second, the dean will write an evaluation of the candidate and rate the candidate on his or her meritoriousness for the appointment. Third, the candidate’s file will be forwarded to the University Rank and Tenure Committee to review any nomination for this professorship. Fourth, the committee will offer its recommendation on any such petition to the Provost

Generally, each school and each division of the College of Arts and Sciences will have only one faculty member holding the honorific title of Distinguished University Research Professor at any time.

Distinguished University Research Professors will serve a three-year term. During the term, the recipient will have access to additional resources from which to hire a graduate assistant, purchase a single course release in any given academic year, and/or pursue other development opportunities. The amount and nature of those resources will be specified in each contract by the respective Dean. A Distinguished University Research Professor also will provide some enriching experience each academic year for undergraduate and/or graduate/professional students by offering them a lecture, seminar, symposium, workshop or other similar opportunity related to the professor's research.

Subsequent to a successful renewal process similar to the initial application process, a Distinguished University Research Professor may be reappointed for an additional three year term without resource allocation.