

Appendix O

Honorific Title: Distinguished Professor

I. Introduction

The university may award the title of distinguished professor to those full professors who have achieved preeminence in their fields of expertise, based on their scholarly work and the excellence of their teaching. The title is not a separate academic rank; it is awarded as recognition for exceptional achievement.

II. Procedures for Selection of Distinguished Professors

- A. Nomination for the designation of a faculty member as a distinguished professor must be made by the dean of each college or school to the Provost during the fall semester of any year.
- B. As to each nominee, the Provost and a university committee appointed by the President from members of the faculty holding the title of distinguished professor or named chair shall provide their views and recommendations to the President.
- C. The Provost and the university committee shall submit their views and recommendations to the President before the end of the fall semester.
- D. The President shall submit his or her recommendation to the Board of Trustees at its first meeting immediately following the fall semester.

III. Selection Criteria

The dean of each college or school shall use the criteria established in that college or school in determining the recommendations to be made to the President. A recommendation shall usually be made after consultation with a selection committee within the college or school.

A. Engineering

An eligible faculty in Armour College of Engineering must demonstrate an outstanding record in scholarship and excellence in teaching well beyond the criteria for promotion to the rank of full professor. In addition, he or she must have demonstrated a record of service to the university well beyond that which is normally expected of a senior professor. Under exceptional circumstances a faculty member who has made internationally recognized contributions in research may be considered on that basis alone. A college selection committee shall evaluate faculty members for the title of distinguished professor based upon the following criteria:

- 1. fellow-grade membership in one or more nationally recognized societies (e.g., Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, etc.);
- 2. membership in the National Academy of Science or National Academy of Engineering;
- 3. the publication of award-winning books or textbooks of such quality that they are regarded as classics in the field;

4. the publication of at least one research paper that is widely recognized as making a major impact on the field;
5. award-winning teaching quality;
6. service to the university in teaching or administration that has had a deep and lasting impact on the IIT community and has gained national prominence for the school; and
7. external awards of recognition for teaching or other professional activities.

A candidate need not meet all of the above criteria, as determined by the college selection committee and the dean.

B. Science

Eligible faculty in the College of Science must demonstrate a record of continued scholarly and teaching excellence well beyond the criteria for promotion to the rank of full professor, while also maintaining a record of service to the IIT community. Because of the diversity of fields within the college, it is not possible to establish a single set of criteria applicable to all faculty. A candidate should, however, meet one or more of the following criteria, as appropriate to his or her field of expertise:

1. a continuous record of distinguished, refereed scholarly publication;
2. receipt of an honorary degree from another university;
3. receipt of a national book award or other recognized award for distinguished scholarship;
4. election as a fellow or diplomate in a professional society or academy; and
5. receipt of a national or international award for distinguished research or teaching.

C. Chicago-Kent College of Law

1. Selection Committee: Prospective distinguished professors initially shall be recommended to the dean of the law school by the Law School Selection Committee, which shall consist of the academic associate deans (associate dean for academic affairs and associate dean for faculty development) and any existing distinguished professors. Such a recommendation shall be accompanied by the resume or vita of the candidate.
2. Nominations: Anyone who is a tenured or tenure-track member of the law faculty may submit nominees for consideration by the Selection Committee.
3. Scholarship: Any candidate must excel at all areas of being a professor and must contribute significantly to the life of the law school. In particular, the candidate must have an outstanding national or international reputation for scholarship. The scholarship must have significantly advanced the development of the law or an understanding of the law and must be widely used in the practical or intellectual legal communities. The scholarship must be equal to the highest quality of scholarship existing at the college of law.

4. **Productivity:** The candidate must have a very substantial body of published work. Ordinarily, candidates must have at least 20 publications overall and at least half that number of publications must have appeared since promotion to full professor. Meeting this normal minimum standard of quantity should convey no expectation of qualification for a distinguished professorship.
5. **Eligibility after Freehling Scholarship:** Any candidate for a distinguished professorship who might also be a candidate for a Freehling Scholarship ordinarily should serve a full term as a Freehling Scholar before being eligible to serve as a distinguished professor.
6. **Public Lecture:** Upon appointment, it is expected that the distinguished professor will deliver a public lecture to the entire law school community.
7. **Requirements Waivable:** Any of the above requirements may be waived in appropriate situations, revised, or abolished by the agreement of both the selection committee and the dean.

D. College of Architecture

The College of Architecture seeks to recognize teachers of outstanding ability and performance by recommending the awarding of the title “distinguished professor.” Faculty members shall be evaluated based on several areas of recognized performance:

1. architectural practice: recognition in the community and profession, national or international;
2. teaching ability: inspiring students to learn and work;
3. research/writing: production of outstanding studies within the college, or writing of at least national prominence; and
4. lectures/exhibitions: outstanding record on the national level.

Nominations for the awarding of this honor must be initiated from within the college and made to the dean.

E. Graduate School of Design/Institute of Design

An eligible faculty member in the Institute of Design (ID) must demonstrate a record of continued scholarly and teaching excellence well beyond the criteria for promotion to the rank of full professor, while also maintaining a record of service to the IIT community. Because of the diversity of fields within ID, it is not possible to establish a single set of criteria applicable to all faculty. Candidates should, however, meet one or more of the following criteria, as appropriate to their fields of expertise:

1. a continuous record of distinguished contributions either by editing and/or writing for professional or scholarly publications;
2. election as a fellow in a professional society;
3. receipt of a national or international award for distinguished research, teaching, or professional work; and

4. a continuous record of their students winning major awards and/or having their work included in professional publications.

F. College of Human Science

The IIT faculty resolution for awarding the title “distinguished professor” requires the recipient to be a full professor who has achieved national or international preeminence in his/her field of expertise, based on scholarly work and teaching excellence.

Eligible faculty in the College of Human Science must demonstrate a record of continued scholarly and teaching excellence well beyond the criteria for promotion to the rank of full professor, while also maintaining a record of service within the IIT community. Because of the diversity of areas within the College, it is not possible to establish a single set of criteria applicable to all faculty. Candidates should, however, meet one or more of the following criteria, as appropriate to their areas of expertise:

1. a continuous record of distinguished, refereed scholarly publication;
2. receipt of an honorary degree from another university;
3. election as a fellow or diplomate in a professional society or academy that is recognized within the faculty member’s discipline or an allied discipline; and
4. receipt of a national or international award for distinguished scholarship or teaching.

G. Stuart School of Business

A full professor may be awarded the title of distinguished professor based on extraordinary scholarship and excellence in teaching. The scholarly contributions must have been published (e.g., a book or set of articles) and have had a significant impact on the faculty member’s field of expertise. The measures of significant impact shall include, but not be limited, to: (1) the number of subsequent citations, (2) a(n) (inter)national conference in which the faculty member’s ideas are prominently discussed (e.g., plenary session), and/or (3) significant changes in business practices that are traceable to the faculty member’s contributions.

H. School of Applied Technology

An eligible faculty in the School of Applied Technology must demonstrate an outstanding record in scholarship and teaching excellence well beyond the criteria for promotion to the rank of full professor. In addition, he or she must have demonstrated a record of service within the IIT community. A college selection committee shall evaluate faculty members for the title of distinguished professor if they have demonstrated national prominence, produced impactful contributions to their field, and brought distinction to IIT.