



Research Professorship Policy

Effective Date: February 14, 2003

Approval: January 8, 2015;
University President

Maintenance of Policy: Vice
President for Research and
Executive Director, Research
Institute

PURPOSE: In order to recognize the importance of research in strengthening academic programs and to enhance the capacity to conduct externally funded research, the title of Research Professor will be established. The title will allow such persons to compete for outside grants which require applicants to hold an “academic title.”

In 2002, the Academic Senate passed I-03-02 “Proposal to Create Non-Tenure-Track Research Professors.” The proposal was not formally adopted and was never included in the Faculty Handbook. The description below was developed by the FAC after consultation with the Dean’s Council and the Vice-President for Research and Director of the UDRI.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all professional research staff at UD.

POLICY:

Title Description

The title of Research Professor may be awarded to new and existing full-time employees of the University who engage in research and mentoring of students. Research faculty will obtain grants/contracts sufficient to cover a significant portion of their salaries and to support students. The Research Professor must have the appropriate terminal degree for the relevant academic unit and demonstrate an ability to secure outside funding in support of research, to mentor students in the research enterprise, and to collaborate with academic colleagues in the research enterprise. These appointments are two-year, non-tenured, non-tenure-track appointments which may be renewed.

The creation of these professorships will complement, but not replace, the existing joint appointment program.

Process

Requests for Research Professor position must be presented to the Chair and Dean of the academic unit. If the candidate is employed in another unit of the University, the request must be supported and approved by the head of that unit and a Memorandum of Understanding defining the specific responsibilities of the position will be signed by all involved parties. Appointments to the Research Professor position are made in academic departments upon the recommendation of the Chair and Dean of the unit to both the Vice-President for Research and to the Provost.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:

1. Application for Research Professorships
2. Joint Appointment Policy

POLICY HISTORY:

Approved in its original form:
February 14, 2003

Approved as amended: January 8,
2015