



Distinguished Professor Candidate Selection Guidelines for the School of Education University of Mississippi

These guidelines are intended to clarify and supplement the University of Mississippi *Guidelines for Distinguished Professor Appointments* (UM Policy no. 10000901).

I. Eligibility

To be considered for this distinction, School of Education (SOE) faculty members must:

- A. Hold the rank of Professor for at least six years, with at least six years of service at UM
- B. Have a demonstrated record of excellence in scholarship, teaching, **and** service in their discipline. Evidence of excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service might include, but is not limited to, some combination of these indicators:
 - 1. The publication of highly cited or recognized books, refereed journal articles, and reviews
 - 2. Outstanding success in other scholarly activities customary to the candidate's field of expertise
 - 3. The receipt of respected national or international awards and prizes from professional organizations and foundations
 - 4. Exceptional success in attaining external grant or foundation support for research and creative activities
 - 5. The establishment of centers of excellence for research, scholarship, teaching, and/or clinical services.
 - 6. Outstanding and sustained work with P-16 school and/or community partners
 - 7. Exemplary teaching record
 - 8. Service that has made a measureable impact on the profession and/or the community
 - 9. Hold/held an office in a national or international professional organization

II. Materials from Nominee

- A. Applicants, nominees, or nominators shall prepare a dossier, similar in format to promotion dossiers.
- B. Consistent with Section IV, Paragraph B, of the UM guidelines, external letters of recommendation are required.
 - 1. The nominator will ordinarily be responsible for soliciting external letters of recommendation.
 - 2. If a faculty member self-nominates, his or her immediate supervisor will be responsible for soliciting letters. In the latter case, it is acceptable for the nominee to provide names of reviewers.
 - 3. The nominator or nominee's supervisor should obtain a **minimum of four** supporting letters from external evaluators within the candidate's field(s).
- C. The dossier may also include internal nomination letters.

III. Selection Process

- A. The process for reviewing and approving the nominee at the department and school levels shall be consistent with the UM *Guidelines for Distinguished Professor Appointments*.
- B. Within the School of Education:
 - 1. The tenured full professors in a unit will vote on forwarding the application of individuals being considered for the title of Distinguished Professor.
 - 2. The dossier will then be reviewed by the respective department chair, dean, and the graduate dean for identification of candidates to be put forth by the SOE.

III. Selection Process (continued)

C. Within the university:

1. The provost, in consultation with the Faculty Senate, shall then appoint a committee composed of full professors from diverse disciplines to assist in the final review and selection of the strongest candidates for the title of Distinguished Professor.
2. The provost will recommend a number of candidates not exceeding five percent of the eligible faculty, with the final decision made by the chancellor.
3. For faculty members holding affiliations with multiple academic units, nominations/ applications must be considered by each academic unit. If granted, the honorific title will apply to each academic area.
4. At any point prior to the chancellor's recommendation, the nominee may withdraw his/her name from further consideration.

IV. Permanence

- A. The title of Distinguished Professor is intended to be a permanent title through the active employment of the recipient at the institution.
- B. The honorific title may continue upon retirement (e.g., Distinguished Professor Emeritus), if approved by the provost.
- C. However, as a consequence of annual reviews, a department chair or dean may recommend to the provost that a title be rescinded. In such cases, the provost will refer the issue to an appropriate faculty committee. As articulated in Section IV, Paragraph B, of the UM guidelines,
 1. As a result of an annual performance review or post-tenure review, a department chair or dean may recommend to the provost that the title of Distinguished Professor be rescinded beginning the next academic year.
 2. The provost will then follow the procedure in paragraph "E" to arrive at a recommendation to make to the chancellor.
 3. If the faculty member wishes to appeal the recommendation of the provost, the procedures under Appeals Process in the Tenure Policy shall apply.

The faculty of the School of Education approved this document on August 17, 2017.