

Professors of Practice Proposal for Inclusion in Faculty Handbook
Approved by Faculty Senate at the March 28, 2016 Meeting

5. PROFESSORS OF PRACTICE (INCLUDES ARTIST-, POET-, SCHOLAR-, WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE)

The professor of practice series provides for non-tenure-track faculty appointments for individuals who bring specialized expertise to the instructional programs of the university, thereby complementing the qualifications and contributions of tenure-track faculty. Individuals appointed to these ranks are expected to be successful and effective professionals in a given field. They must be effective teachers of the discipline and they are expected to be able to understand and evaluate the research that applies to their field and to teach it to students. While professor of practice faculty members may conduct research and present their findings in professional venues, there are no expectations for an extensive research program as is typical of tenure-track faculty appointments.

Individuals appointed to a professor of practice rank must have a graduate or professional degree in the discipline (or a related discipline), professional certification(s) if relevant, and/or significant professional experience. A record of significant professional achievement is expected for appointment at the associate or full level; initial appointments at such ranks require approval of the appropriate departmental committee and head or chair. Appointment to one of these ranks may be from one to five years and is renewable without limit. Tenure will not be awarded at any of these ranks.

Assistant Professor of Practice: Persons appointed at this rank have a graduate or professional degree in the discipline (or a related discipline), professional certification(s) if relevant, and/or significant professional experience. Experience and a demonstrated competence in practice of the profession are expected. Credentials must be relevant to the field and type of assignment.

Associate Professor of Practice: Persons appointed at the associate professor of practice rank have a graduate or professional degree in the discipline (or a related discipline), professional certification(s) if relevant, and/or significant professional experience. Credentials for appointment or promotion to this rank must document a record of significant professional experience and accomplishments relevant to the field and type of assignment.

Professor of Practice: Professor of practice is the capstone rank in the series. Appointment to this rank denotes distinguished professional achievement, and regional,

national, or international prominence in the field. Credentials for appointment or promotion to this rank must document a record of significant professional experience and accomplishments relevant to the field and type of assignment. External validation of such accomplishments and leadership in the field is expected at the time of appointment or promotion.

Creation of a Professor of Practice faculty line and further detail on the duties and responsibilities of these ranks, criteria and the process for appointment, reappointment, and promotion, and the terms and conditions of employment for Professors of Practice (including Assistant Professors of Practice and Assistant Professors of Practice) must be established and approved by the faculty of the respective academic departments or programs and approved by the applicable chair and dean.