

UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

Purpose

The title of *University Professor* is reserved for scholar teachers whose extraordinary professional accomplishments merit special commendation.

Eligibility

Through this rank the University seeks to honor those who teach and research in multiple disciplines, those who have made unusual contributions to society, or those who have achieved national or international distinction. Tenured professors at Pepperdine are eligible for consideration, as well as newly hired faculty who meet the stringent requirements for the award. Those selected for the University Professor (UP) rank will be among the very best in their field and fully supportive of the University's distinctive mission. Candidates will satisfy the following criteria:

- renown (national and/or international distinction)
- demonstrated excellence in scholarship
- demonstrated excellence in teaching as evidenced by commitment to mentoring student scholars
- preeminence in a field of study or excellence in two or more disciplines (potentially able to teach in two or more schools)
- support for the University mission
- full professors or holding credentials that qualify one to be a full professor

Review Process

1. The nominating process is open. Any faculty member, division/department chair, or dean may nominate someone for the honor of University Professor.
2. The nomination requires: (a) the support of divisions or departments in which the nominee regularly teaches (or would teach) and has received tenure (or would be expected to receive tenure); (b) a positive recommendation by the RTP (or Personnel) Committee of the School in which the nominee has tenure or expects to receive tenure.
3. If the nominee holds an appointment in more than one school (or expects to receive an appointment in more than one school), then a specially formed University Rank Committee (URC) will be formed. This Committee will be composed of three representatives from each of the respective Schools' RTP committees of concern. Representatives to the URC will be selected by members of the relevant school RTP committees. The provost will chair the University Rank Committee and will be a non-voting member except in case of a tie.
4. The Deans' Council reviews candidates to assure a reasonable distribution of UP awards. Successful candidates require a positive review by the Deans' Council.
5. The nominee's appointment requires the approval of the president.

Tenure: For lateral hires nominated for the rank, established tenure practices and policies will be followed.

Number of positions

The honor will be relatively rare. Generally, no more than 1 to 2 per cent of the tenured faculty will hold this rank.

Funding

Ideally, University Professorships will be funded by new resources. The new fund-raising campaign, for example, will endow new faculty positions, some of which may be designated for University Professors.

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