

Distinguished University Professorship

The Distinguished University Professorships serve to recognize full professors who continue to excel in teaching, scholarship and creative projects, service, and contributions to UWF and UWF faculty colleagues. The award is held for a three-year period beginning in the fall semester, but recipients hold the title, Distinguished University Professor, through their career at The University of West Florida. The funding source for the awards is the Pace Distinguished University Professorship endowment managed by the UWF Foundation.

Those named Distinguished University Professors will be awarded:

- \$7,500 stipend per year for three years;
- \$10,000 annual budget for each of three years, the use of which is proposed in the application (may include summer salary, travel, materials and equipment, assistantship, or other expenditures designed to enhance the work of the recipient);
- One course reassignment to a project (as proposed in the application) each semester for three years.

The departments of those selected to be Distinguished University Professors will be awarded \$10,000 per year during the tenure of the award (normally three years) for departmental faculty development (travel, equipment, etc.).

Responsibilities:

Distinguished University Professors will be expected to make a public presentation on a topic relevant to their selection—it can be a research topic, one that presents their educational or teaching philosophy, one that addresses an aspect of service to the university, profession or community, or one that addresses the interconnections between any of these areas. The presentation will normally be made in the final year of the professorship and will typically be related to the work undertaken during the professorship.

Distinguished University Professors will be asked to mentor one or more faculty in their areas of interest and expertise during the duration of their professorship.

Distinguished University Professors may also be asked to participate in other programs sponsored by the Center for University Teaching, Learning, and Assessment and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, such as new faculty orientation or other events for faculty and/or students where their expertise will be valuable.

Criteria:

- Tenured Full Professor

- Minimum of three years in rank at UWF at the time of application
- Distinguished record in teaching, scholarship and creative projects, and service
- Notable contributions to UWF and to UWF faculty colleagues
- A sustained level of highest achievement in one of the areas: teaching, scholarship and creative projects, or service

Nomination/Application Procedures:

Due dates for applications will be announced each year with awards made effective at the beginning of the following academic year.

If the nominee accepts the nomination, the following documents should be submitted:

- A detailed letter of application that outlines the nominee’s qualifications for recognition as a Distinguished University Professor, the principal area of recognition (teaching, scholarship and creative projects, or service), including indications of past achievements, notable awards, and other forms of recognition.
- Tangible evidence of notable contributions to UWF and to Faculty Colleagues.
- The nominee’s current c.v.
- A statement from the nominee addressing his/her integration of teaching, learning, and service.
- Documentation of success in all three areas of teaching, scholarship and creative projects, and service, with particular emphasis in the area of highest achievement, distinction, and recognition.
- Letters of support from no more than three current or former students.
- Letters of support from no more than three colleagues at UWF who are especially knowledgeable about the candidate’s work and contributions.
- Letters of endorsement from no more than three individuals outside the university who have particular knowledge of the candidate’s work.
- Description of the budget planned for year one and projection of anticipated budget use beyond.

Review Process:

- Committee reviews nominations and supporting materials and makes recommendations to the Provost by the applicable deadline providing a ranking of the nominees and a brief assessment of each candidate’s qualifications for the award.
- Committee: Deans of the three colleges and graduate studies and five (5) faculty members comprised of the Chair or designee for each of the respective College Councils and the two current award recipients. One of the current award recipients will be selected by the committee as chair.
- Provost will announce recipients each year.