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DOC 2013-06 Revision to Select Faculty and Instructional Staff Titles in Faculty Handbook

University of Dayton. Faculty Affairs Committee

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Proposal to the Academic Senate

Title: Revision to Select Faculty and Instructional Staff Titles in Faculty Handbook

Submitted by: Faculty Affairs Committee

Date: December 13, 2013

Action: Consultation

Reference: Art. II. B. 3

Proposed that the description of the title of “Distinguished Service Professor” contained in §IV7(E) of the University of Dayton Faculty Handbook be amended to read as follows:

Note: *Italicized* material indicates a change from the current description of the title

(E) Distinguished Service Professor

The title Distinguished Service Professor may be awarded to an individual currently a member of the faculty who *has devoted many years to serving the University, and who has made exceptional contributions* to the University community in the areas of teaching, scholarship, *service*, or administration. *The title may only be held by current members of the faculty.* Any member of the University academic community may nominate a candidate for the title Distinguished Service Professor. Normally the nomination should originate through department channels, but in rare cases the nomination may be made to the appropriate Dean or the Provost. The title is conferred by the President upon the recommendation of the Provost. Distinguished Service Professors are listed in the Academic Catalog.

Rationale:

The honorary title of Distinguished Service Professor (“DSP”) was created to give special recognition to current faculty members who met the criteria set forth in the first sentence of §IV7(E). The title of DSP is not meant as a substitute for or supplement to the Professor Emeritus/Emerita title awarded to retired faculty members, and set out in §IV7(F) of the University of Dayton Faculty Handbook.

Unfortunately, because of the way §IV7(E) was drafted, that section could be read as allowing a retired faculty member to hold the DSP title as long as it was awarded to him or her while he or she was still a current faculty member. While such a reading of the description is not implausible, it does not comport with our view of the DSP title. Allowing retired faculty members to hold the title of Distinguished Service Professor also can create confusion as to whether the title holder is an active or retired faculty member. Therefore, the Faculty Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate recommends that Senate make clear that the DSP title is only to be held by current faculty members by adding the italicized sentence to the description.

The first sentence of the description has also been modified to clarify that a holder of the title's contributions to the University may be made in one or more of the three traditional areas for evaluating a faculty member, teaching, scholarship, and service as well as in the area of administration. The prior definition seemed to omit the service category from the list of areas in which a faculty member may make exceptional contributions to the University.

Current title description (Handbook, pg. 53)

Distinguished Service Professor

The title Distinguished Service Professor may be awarded to an individual currently a member of the faculty who has contributed long years of service to the University and who has demonstrated truly exceptional service to the University community as a teacher, researcher, or academic administrator. Any member of the University academic community may nominate a candidate for the title Distinguished Service Professor. Normally the nomination should originate through department channels, but in rare cases the nomination may be made to the appropriate Dean or the Provost. The title is conferred by the President upon the recommendation of the Provost. Distinguished Service Professors are listed in the [Academic Catalog](#).

Amendment: This revised title will take effect May 16, 2015. All living Distinguished Service Professors currently listed in the Academic Catalog will remain.