

580-020-0005
Academic Rank

(1) Academic ranks shall consist of graduate and faculty rank.

Graduate ranks are GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT, GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, and FELLOW.

Faculty titles and ranks are (in alphabetical order): AFFILIATED FACULTY, CLINICAL PROFESSOR (assistant clinical professor, associate clinical professor, clinical professor) or PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE (assistant professor of practice, associate professor of practice, professor of practice), INSTRUCTOR (instructor, senior instructor I, senior instructor II), LECTURER (lecturer, senior lecturer I, senior lecturer II), LIBRARIAN (assistant librarian, associate librarian, senior librarian), RESEARCH ASSISTANT (research assistant, senior research assistant I, senior research assistant II), RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (research associate, senior research associate I, senior research associate II), RESEARCH FACULTY (research assistant professor, research associate professor, research professor), and TENURE TRACK OR TENURED FACULTY (assistant professor, associate professor, professor, distinguished professor). Faculty rank will not be given to graduate students.

(2) Each institution can select from among these ranks and titles those appropriate to the hiring and retention of their faculty members as it relates to their institutional mission.

(3) The following definitions shall govern the use of faculty titles and rank:

- (a) AFFILIATED FACULTY: A NTTF (Non-Tenure Track Faculty) appointment for individuals who do not receive monetary compensation by the institution for which services are rendered. They can be unpaid invited guests for a temporary length of time or individuals who on a consistent basis lend their expertise and/or collaborate on teaching and research. Affiliate status is approved for a specified length of time and must be renewed should the association continue.
- (b) CLINICAL FACULTY OR PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE SERIES: A NTTF (Non-Tenure Track Faculty) appointment for individuals with primary duties in the area of clinical instruction or professionally related community education/service. Clinical faculty or professor of practice members are licensed or certified professionals, or individuals in professional fields. The major responsibility involves the education of students/learners in academic and clinical settings, supervising clinical experiences, and/or engaging in professionally related community service. Scholarly activity may or may not be required. Titles in this category in ascending order are assistant clinical professor, associate clinical professor, and clinical professor; or assistant professor of practice, associate professor of practice, and professor of practice.

- (c) **INSTRUCTOR SERIES:** A NTTF (Non-Tenure Track Faculty) appointment for individuals with unclassified instructional appointments whose functions are devoted exclusively or primarily to undergraduate instruction. Such appointments include advising and mentoring expectations congruent with creative and engaged undergraduate instruction, including the possibility of involvement in design and development of courses and the curriculum. Titles in this category in ascending order are instructor, senior instructor I, senior instructor II.
- (d) **LECTURER SERIES:** A NTTF (Non-Tenure Track Faculty) appointment for individuals with unclassified instructional appointments whose functions may include significant responsibilities for graduate-level instruction. The appointment may also include upper-division undergraduate instruction. Such appointments must include significant mentoring and advising responsibilities and a significant measure of responsibility for graduate education. Appointments in the lecturer series will always require the terminal degree (or its professional equivalent for certain adjunct appointments), but the holding of a terminal degree in itself does not constitute an argument for appointment in the lecturer series. Titles in this category in ascending order are lecturer, senior lecturer I, senior lecturer II.
- (e) **LIBRARIAN SERIES:** A ranked appointment that depends on a terminal professional degree in librarianship (typically, a master's in Library or Information Science) or a position-relevant terminal professional/academic degree plus appropriate experience. Such degree requirements ensure proper professional training, but also provide the flexibility to open appointments to a broader range of qualified applicants. Titles in this category in ascending order are assistant librarian, associate librarian, and senior librarian. A university may elect to consider the librarian series to be eligible for tenure or to be tenured ranks with privileges.
- (f) **RESEARCH ASSISTANT SERIES:** A NTTF (Non-Tenure Track Faculty) appointment for individuals who have earned a bachelor's or master's degree and conduct research under the direction of a tenure-related faculty member or a research associate. Titles in this category in ascending order are research assistant, senior research assistant I, senior research assistant II.
- (g) **RESEARCH ASSOCIATE SERIES:** A NTTF (Non-Tenure Track Faculty) appointment for individuals who have an earned doctoral degree (or the highest professional degree in the field plus appropriate experience) and conduct research independently. Titles in this category in ascending order are research associate, senior research associate I, senior research associate II.
- (h) **RESEARCH FACULTY:** A NTTF (Non-Tenure Track Faculty) appointment for individuals who are primarily engaged in research at a level normally appropriate for a professorial rank. Titles in this category in ascending order are research assistant professor, research associate professor, and research professor.

- (i) TENURE-TRACK AND TENURED FACULTY SERIES. A faculty position assigned to an academic department wherein the incumbent holds academic rank and is eligible for tenure or is tenured. Titles in this category in ascending order are assistant professor, associate professor, and professor. The title of distinguished professor may be bestowed based on criteria established by a university.
- (4) The terms "adjunct," "visiting," "fellow," or "emeriti" may be used and/or added to academic ranks in those cases in which the institution wishes (1) to draw upon the skills of certain persons in the community or in other educational, industrial, or governmental institutions for help in carrying forward teaching, research, or service commitments (e.g., doctors, dentists, lawyers, psychiatrists, professors or administrators at other academic or governmental institutions, public school teachers or administrators), (2) where the appointment is planned for a limited duration, or (3) as an honorific title.
- (5) Academic rank can be assigned to staff members in unclassified academic service, whether the type of service is teaching, research, extension, administration or other service. Deans, vice presidents, presidents, Chancellor, and vice chancellors may have the academic rank of professor as determined by each institution's criteria.

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Academic Rank

(1) Academic ranks shall consist of graduate and faculty rank. Graduate ranks are graduate teaching assistant, graduate research assistant and fellow. Faculty ranks are instructor, senior instructor, research assistant, research associate, lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor and professor. Faculty rank will not be given to graduate students.

(2) The following definitions of the graduate rank of fellow and of the less common nonprofessional faculty ranks shall govern their use:

(a) "Fellow" may be used in a variety of cases where individuals are associated with the institution for limited periods of time for further training or experience; they may or may not be required to provide services to the institution. The rank may be used for both pre- and post-doctoral fellowships.

(b) "Research Associate" and "Senior Research Associate" may be used for staff appointees in the conduct and direction of independent research. Such appointees will normally hold the doctoral degree or the highest degree appropriate to the field in which the research is being conducted.

(c) "Senior Instructor" may be used for the appointment or promotion of staff members who have special skills or experience needed in the instructional program of the institution, but who would not normally be appointed or promoted to professorial ranks. Promotion to the rank of senior instructor will not be made effective before the end of the third year of service. Appointment or promotion to the rank of senior instructor may be made with or without indefinite tenure. Appointment to this rank does not preclude subsequent advancement in rank under appropriate conditions.

(d) "Research Assistant" and "Senior Research Assistant" may be used for staff appointees engaged in the conduct of research under supervision. Such appointees will hold a degree appropriate to the field in which the research is being conducted.

(e) "Lecturer" may be used for appointments of faculty members for part-time service who have limited formal academic preparation but whose professional achievements are such that expected salary would equal that paid to persons with professorial rank.

(3) The adjectives "adjunct" or "visiting" may be joined to academic ranks in those cases in which the institution wishes to draw upon the skills of certain persons in the community or in other educational, industrial or governmental institutions for help in carrying forward teaching, research or service commitments (e.g., doctors, dentists, lawyers, psychiatrists, professors or administrators at other academic or governmental institutions, public school teachers or administrators).

(4) Academic rank is assigned to staff members in the unclassified academic service, whether the type of service is teaching, research, extension, administration or other service. Deans, vice presidents, presidents, Chancellor and vice chancellors shall have the academic rank of professor.