



The University of Akron
Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences

Date: December 1, 2021

TO: John M. Wiencek
Executive VP and Provost

FROM: Mitchell S. McKinney
Dean, Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences

SUBJECT: Distinguished Professor Guidelines and Criteria

The attached guidelines have been approved by the faculty of the Department of Biology on November 19, 2021.

I have approved all attached guidelines and criteria.

If you concur, we ask that you also approve the guidelines and criteria.

12/1/2021

Department Chair

Date

Dean Buchtel College of Arts & Sciences

12/2/2021

Date

Exec VP & Provost

12/07/2021

Date

Guidelines for Distinguished Professor
The Department of Biology
Approved by the faculty on 11/19/2021

Introduction. The title of Distinguished Professor is an honor bestowed on a faculty member based on professional accomplishments over their career. This honor is predicated primarily on evidence of exemplary achievements in scholarship and teaching as recognized by members of the national and international scientific communities, and secondarily, supported by a reputation of distinction at The University of Akron.

I. Eligibility. A candidate is eligible for nomination by the department after having served at the rank of professor at the University of Akron for no less than 5 years.

II. Criteria. The candidate must have a body of work across their career that demonstrates excellence in scholarship and/or teaching that is recognized at the national and international levels. Consideration will be given to a candidate's professional service in their discipline, particularly at the national and international levels, with an emphasis on advancing the field in their area of scholarship.

a. Quality of Scholarship: A vigorous nationally and internationally recognized research program is essential for consideration for the position. The measures of the quality for scholarship may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Number and quality of peer reviewed journal publications.
- Publication of review articles, book chapters, monographs, textbooks, *etc.*
- Level of external funding
- Presentations at professional meetings, conferences, and symposia
- Invited talks to universities, industry, international conferences, symposia and professional meetings
- Patents and software
- The impact evident in influential pieces of scholarship within the body of work
- Evaluation of citation metrics
- Research awards and other distinctions

b. Quality of Teaching: The candidate is expected to have excelled in teaching at The University of Akron. Excellence in teaching is not limited to classroom instruction, but extends to a record of accomplishment in student advising, mentoring, and curricular development. The measures of quality teaching may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Student evaluations
- Peer evaluations
- Course development and innovations
- Direction of MS theses and PhD dissertations
- Educational resources such as textbooks, websites, and podcasts

- Evidence of an impact on the field through mentorship of students and junior faculty
- Awards and other distinctions for teaching

c. Quality of Service: The measures of professional service may include, but are not limited to:

- Editorships (or associate editorships) in leading journals in the candidate's area
- Service on editorial boards
- Offices held in professional and scientific societies
- A record of service to the discipline through reviews of scholarship
- Professional awards and other distinctions for service
- Chairing sessions at national and international professional meetings
- Evidence of broader impact to society
- Advising industrial, nonprofit, and governmental organizations