



POLICY STATEMENT 62

ACADEMIC HONORIFICS: CHAIRS, PROFESSORSHIPS, LECTURESHIPS, AND AWARDS

POLICY DIGEST

Primary Monitoring Unit: Academic Affairs
Initially Issued: August 14, 2000
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I. PURPOSE

To describe honorifics by which faculty and others may be recognized for academic abilities or accomplishments. Academic honorifics include chairs, professorships, lectureships and awards.

II. DEFINITIONS

Additional Compensation. Compensation above the employee's base salary paid by LSU Eunice from any source. Additional compensation is earned for performing specific duties/services in addition to previously assigned duties.

Award. Usually a one-time cash amount, but sometimes merchandise or a permanent increase in base salary given to employees selected in accordance with previously defined criteria and procedures.

Base Salary. Permanent, ongoing compensation paid to a faculty member for services rendered over a 12-month period for faculty employed on fiscal pay basis, or over a 9-month period for faculty employed on academic pay basis.

Chair. A faculty position typically supported by an endowment of at least \$1 million or by a similar level of annual University funding. Monetary considerations associated with chairs may include salary support for the holder or funds to be spent on activities supporting the chair. Note: References to chairs in this policy pertain to honorifics termed "chair" unless the term used is "department chair/head" in which case it refers to the administrative leader of an academic department, or is being used in reference to the head of a committee.

Designated Honorific. A chair, professorship, lectureship or award supported from University funds or from annual gifts for these purposes and, under terms set by the LSU Board of Supervisors, where there is no endowed support.

Endowed Honorific. A chair, professorship, lectureship or award supported by income from an endowment fund.

Faculty. As defined by the [Regulations of the LSU Board of Supervisors](#), individuals appointed full-time at the rank of instructor and above, including those holding joint appointments with other campuses.

Full-time. 100% effort constitutes full-time; any appointment less than 100% effort is considered part-time for the purposes of this policy statement.

Honorific. Chairs, professorships, lectureships and awards may be referred to generically in this policy as "honorifics."

Lectureship. An invitation carrying a substantial honorarium for a scholar of note to publicly deliver one or more lectures.

Professorship. A faculty position, typically supported by an endowment corpus between \$100,000 and \$1 million (or a similar level of annual University funding). Monetary considerations associated with professorships may include salary support for the holder, or funds to be spent on activities supporting the professorship.

Recognized Support Organization. An alumni organization recognized by the LSU Board of Supervisors, or a foundation or entity organized by the alumni or other individuals supportive of LSU Eunice, the charter of which specifically provides that the purpose of the foundation or entity is to aid LSU Eunice in a philanthropic manner.

Salary Supplement. A payment beyond salary, made by a Recognized Support Organization to an LSU Eunice employee, for which the University is not obligated beyond the period specified and that is not made in consideration for services rendered, but rather as an incentive to encourage the employee to remain at the University, or as a recognition of past services to the University.

Summer Salary. Salary paid between two academic years to a faculty member appointed on a regular academic year (9-month) basis.

Support Fund. Funds used for expenditures supportive of an honorific, such as travel, equipment, and salaries for assistants.

III. GENERAL POLICY

Honorifics will be utilized as a means of reward, recognition, motivation, inspiration, academic enhancement, economic development and fostering excellence in accordance with the terms and conditions associated with the particular honorific. The creation of awards and lectureships at the department, college or campus level must be approved by the LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost. The creation of chairs and professorships must be recommended by the LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the LSU Eunice Chancellor and the President of LSU System and finally approved by the Board of Supervisors. The University reserves the right to decline any proposal to endow or designate an honorific. Recommendations for creation of honorifics must include:

A. Sources of Support:

1. University sources: allocation of University funds.
2. Recognized Support Organization: endowment, annual gift or one-time donation.

B. Classification of Honorific Being Created: chair, professorship, lectureship, or award.

C. Duration: single event, specific term or indefinite term.

D. Exact Title and Basis for Naming:

For clarity and consistency, a standard format for naming chairs and professorships will be followed. The format comprises three elements, as follows:

_____ (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

(Name, usually of (honorific type, with (academic discipline) donor or honoree) appropriate adjectives)

For example, "Fred C. Frey Chair of Southern Studies" or "Chevron Professorship in Engineering." Use of the adjective "endowed" in the title is discouraged because it unnecessarily lengthens the title. This format notwithstanding, strong donor preferences will be honored.

All references to an honorific in the LSU Board of Supervisors' resolution to establish the honorific, in subsequent personnel actions, in catalog entries and in other publications must be uniform and consistent.

For endowments of \$1 million or more, or designated support at a similar level, the honorific title usually should be "chair." Exceptions would include honorifics originally termed professorships that have reached the \$1 million level through a number of contributions and state matching grants. Such honorifics would remain titled "professorship," or an approved variation, such as "university professor." Endowments of less than \$1 million should be titled "professorship," or an approved variation of that term.

E. Current Value to the Recipient:

1. Chairs and Professorships: Monetary consideration may take several forms depending on the length of appointment to the honorific and whether there are specific duties associated with holding the chair or professorship.

a. Support in the form of base salary (*Support in the form of base salary is charged to object code 1110) may be paid if the holder is permanently appointed to the chair or professorship, or the salary is permanently increased even if appointment to the chair or professorship is temporary. Retirement contributions must be made on any amount paid as base salary.

b. Support in the form of additional compensation (* Support in the form of additional compensation for temporary additional duties during the academic year or fiscal year is charged to object code 1060. If additional duties are performed throughout the academic year or fiscal year, the additional compensation may be paid as an administrative salary supplement charged to object code 1050.) may be paid during the fiscal year or academic year as appropriate if funds are allocated for this purpose for the period for which there are specific additional duties associated with appointment to the honorific, such as developing and directing an institute. Retirement contributions must be made on additional compensation paid for services rendered.

- c. Support may be provided in the form of summer salary (*Support in the form of summer salary is charged to object code 1060.) for chair- or professorship-related activity performed during the summer months by holders appointed on academic year (9-month) pay basis. Retirement contributions must be made on summer salary.
 - d. Support may be provided in the form of a salary supplement (*Support in the form of a salary supplement is charged to object code 1090.) from funds provided by Recognized Support Organizations for chair or professorship holders appointed for a limited period and who are not assigned specific additional duties associated with appointment to the chair or professorship. Retirement contributions cannot be made on these salary supplements because the amount is not permanent, nor is it for specific services rendered.
 - e. Support may be provided in the form of a support fund (The object code to which expenditures from a support fund are charged depends upon how the funds are used.) to be used for expenditures supportive of the purpose of the chair or professorship, such as travel, equipment, and salaries for assistants.
- 2. Lectureships: The value to the recipient of a lectureship is established by approved donor terms and conditions or, in the case of University allocations, the value is established by the LSU Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost through appropriate administrative channels. Lectureships established after June 30, 1980 require a dedicated support level of no less than \$2,000 annually.
 - 3. Awards: The value to the recipient of an award is established by approved donor terms and conditions or, in the case of University allocations, the value is established by the LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost through appropriate administrative channels.

IV. ENDOWED AND DESIGNATED CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS

A. Proposal Process for Chairs and Professorships:

1. Chairs:

- a. Proposal. A written proposal to be submitted to a donor for a gift for a new chair, as well as a plan for the proposed chair, must be submitted to the LSU Eunice Office of Academic Affairs for approval prior to presentation to the prospective donor. The proposal must include the academic discipline, budgeted support, a statement indicating compliance with regulations of the Board of Regents Support Fund (if a match is sought) and the proposed naming format. This review must take place in advance of presentation to the donor in order to avoid adversely affecting a donor relationship by making adjustments to a written proposal previously submitted to a donor.
- b. Donor Agreement. Donor agreements for chairs must be approved by the LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost, as well as Recognized Support Organizations as applicable, before submission to the donor for execution.

- 159 2. Professorships:
- 162 a. Proposal. Prior approval of proposals to be presented to prospective donors for
163 professorships is not required unless unusual terms or conditions are involved.
164
- 165 b. Donor Agreement. Donor agreements for professorships must be approved by
166 the appropriate dean/director or by the appropriate LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor if
167 the position is not restricted to a college or school, as well as the applicable
168 Recognized Support Organization, before submission to the donor for execution.
169
- 170 B. Approval by Board of Supervisors: The creation and award of any endowed or
171 designated chair or professorship requires approval of the LSU Board of Supervisors.
172 The sources of funding and stipulations on the use of such funds must be approved by
173 the LSU Eunice Chancellor through administrative channels. For those chairs and
174 professorships that will be supported by proceeds from the Board of Regents Support
175 Fund, resolutions to approve the establishment of chairs or professorships for
176 presentation to the LSU Board of Supervisors are prepared by the LSU Office of Finance
177 and Administrative Services. For other chairs and professorships, the resolutions for
178 presentation to the LSU Board of Supervisors are prepared by the LSU Eunice Office of
179 University Advancement.
- 180 C. Documentation Requirements for Chairs and Professorships Funded in Part by the
181 Board of Regents:
- 182 1. The applicable policies of the Board of Regents shall govern the creation,
183 appointment and administration of endowed chairs and professorships supported by
184 matching funds from the Board of Regents Support Fund.
- 185 2. The LSU Office of Finance and Administrative Services is responsible for the
186 preparation of documentation required by the Board of Regents to apply for state
187 matching funds and for the transmission of that documentation to the Office of the
188 LSU Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- 189 3. The Office of the LSU Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for
190 submitting the necessary documentation to the Board of Regents in accordance with
191 the due dates established by the Board of Regents.
- 192 4. Upon receipt of state matching funds from the Board of Regents, the LSU Office of
193 Finance and Administrative Services deposits the matching funds and provides the
194 Board of Regents with the required documentation verifying that the funds were
195 deposited.
- 196 5. The LSU Office of Finance and Administrative Services then transfers the state
197 matching funds to the LSU Eunice Foundation to be managed jointly with the private
198 contributions already on deposit with the LSU Foundation in accordance with the
199 Funds Management Agreement duly executed between the LSU Board of
200 Supervisors and the LSU Foundation.
- 201 6. The LSU Office of Finance and Administrative Services is responsible for adherence
202 to the annual reporting requirements established by the Board of Regents for chairs
203 and professorships for which state matching funds were received.

D. Filling Chairs and Professorships:

1. Chairs: Chair positions for which matching funds have been provided by the Board of Regents through the Board of Regents Support Fund must be filled competitively through a national search utilizing a selection committee. At a minimum, the selection committee must include an individual who is external to the campus and who is a recognized expert/scholar in the general field of the chair, but who is not affiliated with the private donor or the Board of Regents. Procedures for filling other chairs must be submitted through appropriate administrative channels for approval by the LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost. The appointment of an individual to a chair requires approval by the LSU System President through appropriate administrative channels.
2. Professorships: Procedures for filling professorships must be submitted for approval through appropriate administrative channels to the LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost. The appointment of an individual to a professorship requires approval by the LSU System President through appropriate administrative channels.

V. AWARDS

Eligibility criteria and selection procedures for all awards are subject to approval by the LSU Eunice Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Provost. Awards are to be made in accordance with those procedures and subsequently reported to the LSU Board of Supervisors.

Information regarding nomination procedures and due dates for major faculty awards is distributed by the unit responsible for coordinating the nomination and selection processes for the various awards. This information is generally distributed early in the fall semester with nomination packets due at the beginning of the spring semester. See the Appendix for a profile of major university-wide awards. Note that recipients of university-wide awards are not eligible to receive the same award more than once. Whether or not recipients of awards restricted to a particular department or college are eligible to repeatedly receive the same award is dependent upon the eligibility criteria associated with that particular award.

VI. LECTURESHIPS

Lectureships shall be awarded in accordance with University and state regulations governing personal services contracts. Procedures for processing personal services contracts are established and monitored by the LSU Eunice Purchasing Office.

APPENDIX

LSU EUNICE NAMED FOUNDATION PROFESSORS

The LSU Eunice Named Professorships (designated for specific academic focus) is an honorific title awarded in recognition of a faculty member who has a reputation for excellence in field of study.

REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

The call for nominations is issued by the LSU Eunice Office of Academic Affairs, after notification from the LSUE Foundation that funds are available.

ELIGIBILITY

The nominations shall be

- A. Hold faculty rank at LSU Eunice
- B. Be employed on a full-time basis
- C. Hold permanent position at LSU Eunice
- D. Meet criteria set forth by established Professorship/Chair

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Nominations will be reviewed by a special committee appointed by the LSU Chair of the Division of Instructional Support and Development Advisory Council. The Committee's recommendations shall be submitted to the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, who will review the nominations with the selection committee prior to submission of recommendations to the LSU Eunice Chancellor, the LSU President and the LSU Board of Supervisors. Final appointment of an individual shall be made by the Board of Supervisors.

MONETARY CONSIDERATION

Faculty named Professorships receive a base salary increase based on market conditions. Generally 60% of allocation is salary and 30% is research, travel, or other needs related to instruction.

TERM

Appointment as a Named Foundation Professor is ongoing unless the holder chooses to accept another named professorship or chair. A Named Foundation Professor who accepts another named professorship or chair automatically forfeits the Foundation Professorship and the associated academic support fund.