Named Professorships

The College nominates members of its own faculty who have shown exceptional merit in research and teaching for named professorships. The University has established the following criteria for appointment to a named chair:

- The faculty member must have stimulated or substantially altered his or her field through scholarly or artistic work.
- The faculty member must have achieved international recognition by peers in the field.
- The faculty member must have made exceptional teaching contributions.

Upon receiving a nomination, the Dean consults the College’s Executive Committee. If advised by the Committee to pursue the nomination, the Dean will consult at least three external evaluators who are nationally or internationally known in the discipline. The Dean may then forward a collegiate nomination to the Provost, who consults a University-wide Faculty Advisory Committee on Distinguished Professorships, the members of which are holders of named and endowed chairs. The College and the UI Foundation cooperate to provide financial support for the salary and research of those who receive named professorships.

Endowed Chairs

The College or the department may receive endowments to fund chairs. If the endowment is made to the College, the Dean consults the Executive Committee and the terms of the endowment before designating the department in which the chair will be filled or the units that will share a joint appointment. The criteria for endowed chairs are the same as those listed above for named chairs.

Endowed chairs are generally filled through external searches. In filling these positions, the College intends to build on its areas of strength and to add scholars of exceptional distinction to its faculty. The search committee for such a position includes departmental faculty, the Dean or the Dean’s designate, and one or more faculty members who hold endowed chairs.
Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost

GUIDELINES FOR NAMED FACULTY POSITIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

I. Definitions and funding guidelines:

A. “Named faculty positions” include endowed deanships, chairs, professorships, and fellowships, as well as named professorships or fellowships that are supported by temporary funds.

B. See the UI Foundation Named Gift Recognition Guidelines (http://president.uiowa.edu/files/president.uiowa.edu/files/NGRGuidelinesoftheUIandUIF.pdf) for the minimum endowment or commitment required for each type of named faculty position, and for additional guidance regarding naming opportunities.

II. Appointments for named faculty positions shall be term appointments and are decided by the provost.

A. Nominations for named faculty appointments must be submitted by the dean of the college to the provost.

B. The term of appointment for a chair is normally five to seven years, and for a professorship or fellowship, three to five years. Appointments may be renewed with the approval of the provost (see Section IV). An endowed deanship is tied to the dean’s appointment.

C. If an appointment is designated as renewable, a review will be conducted prior to renewal. This review’s purposes are to ensure that the criteria for the initial selection of the holder of the position continue to be consistent with the donor’s intent, and that the holder of the position continues to meet the appointment criteria.

D. Appointments that are not term-limited or were made prior to June 27, 2007 will remain in force, except in cases of dereliction of duty or unproductive or ineffective scholarship, service and/or teaching.

III. Criteria for appointment to a named faculty position (as appropriate to the award):

Regardless of the primary basis of the appointment (scholarship, teaching, or clinical practice), all appointees to named positions are expected to have a satisfactory record of
accomplishment in all of the missions relevant to their specific rank and track, i.e., teaching, service, creative work/scholarship, or clinical practice.

A. For appointments based primarily on scholarship, the individual must have:
   1. Stimulated or substantially altered his/her field through scholarly or artistic work.
   2. Received international recognition by peers within the field, as relevant.
   3. Be tenured.

B. For appointments based primarily on teaching, the individual must have:
   1. Demonstrated truly exceptional contributions to the teaching mission of the institution defined as being of the caliber normally recognized by the President and Provost Award for Teaching Excellence, and greater than those usually recognized by the Collegiate Teaching Awards.
   2. Received local, national, and/or international recognition within the educational field, as relevant.
   3. An appointment in either the tenure or clinical track.

C. For appointments based primarily on clinical practice, the individual must have:
   1. Demonstrated truly exceptional contributions to the clinical service mission of the institution.
   2. Received local, national, and/or international recognition for clinical accomplishments within the field, as relevant.
   3. An appointment in either the tenure or clinical track.

IV. Material to be submitted:

A. For all appointments:
   1. Funding agreement (http://provost.uiowa.edu/faculty/fachandbk/policies/funding_agreement.pdf). Before a faculty member can be appointed to a named position, a funding agreement must be signed by both the UI Foundation and the provost to confirm that an appropriate funding stream(s) has been established for the position and that the position conforms to UIF naming guidelines (http://president.uiowa.edu/files/president.uiowa.edu/files/NGRGuidelinesoftheUIandUIF.pdf).
B. For appointments based primarily on scholarship:

1. Letter of nomination from the dean defining the nominee’s field, providing a detailed description of the nominee’s scholarly or artistic contribution to his or her field, and evaluating the quality of his or her teaching (include comparisons with one or two distinguished people who hold similar endowed positions at peer institutions, e.g., AAU, Big Ten, major public, Doctoral/Research Universities-Extensive, or institutions in which the corresponding department is of peer quality). In addition, the letter should include a brief description of the process by which the nominee was selected.

2. The nominee’s current curriculum vitae, accompanied by an explanation from a colleague, department chair, or other administrator explaining how the c.v. should be interpreted (e.g., quality of publication outlets; prestige of awards).

3. Three to five letters from outside reviewers analyzing in detail the quality of the individual’s scholarly or artistic work, with specific reference to its impact on the field; a biosketch of each referee from a federal grant or Who’s Who publication (or a current curriculum vitae); and an explanation of the personal or professional relationship of each referee to the nominee.

4. Three to five of the nominee’s major publications (or samples/records of artistic work) and published reviews, if any exist, of that work.

C. For appointments based primarily on teaching:

Because teaching at The University of Iowa takes place in such diverse settings and is documented in so many different ways, it is possible that individual nominations will not include all of the materials in 5 through 7 below. A nomination will be judged complete if the materials submitted provide compelling evidence of truly exceptional contributions to the teaching mission of the institution.

These appointments are generally made at the named professorship or faculty fellowship level, and not at the chair level.

1. A letter from the dean and DEO describing the candidate’s teaching accomplishments, including descriptions of instructional innovations and curriculum development as appropriate.

2. A personal statement by the candidate describing his or her teaching philosophy and practice.

3. A current curriculum vitae, with teaching accomplishments highlighted.
4. Three to five letters from professionals familiar with the candidate’s teaching. Letters from professionals outside the University of Iowa are useful in establishing national and international recognition.

5. Three to five letters from former students.


7. Exemplary syllabi, assignments, tests or other documents demonstrating the candidate’s approach to teaching.

D. For appointments based primarily on clinical practice:

Because clinical practice at The University of Iowa takes place in diverse settings and is documented in many different ways, it is possible that individual nominations may not include material described in 5 and/or 6 below. A nomination will be judged complete if the materials submitted provide compelling evidence of truly exceptional contributions to the clinical service of the institution.

These appointments are generally made at the named professorship or faculty fellowship level, and not at the chair level.

1. A letter from the dean and DEO describing the candidate’s clinical practice accomplishments.

2. A personal statement by the candidate describing his or her clinical practice philosophy and practice.


4. Three to five letters from professionals familiar with the candidate’s clinical practice. Because the best judges of clinical practice are peer clinicians, letters supporting appointments in this category may be from professionals either inside or outside the University of Iowa.

5. Letters from patients or clients, no more than 3 to 5, may be submitted in support.

6. Outcome data, client evaluations, or other quality data related to the specific area of clinical practice may be submitted.

V. Renewal of a term position:

The dean will submit:
A. A letter to the provost proposing the renewal, describing the accomplishments that merit continued appointment.

B. The nominee’s current *curriculum vitae*.

C. An updated funding agreement.

D. Two letters from individuals outside the University. Requirement for outside letters may be waived in special circumstances, but only with the consent of the provost.

VI. Reappointment from professorship to chair or fellowship to professorship:

If funding permits, a named faculty position may be upgraded (i.e., a professorship may be upgraded to a chair or a fellowship to a professorship) upon consultation with the UI Foundation and approval by the provost. The current holder of the position must qualify for the newly designated position and a new funding agreement must be executed. The Office of the Provost will notify the UI Foundation of the new faculty appointment.

The dean will submit:

A. A letter to the provost proposing the change, and describing the accomplishments of the holder of the appointment that merit this change.

B. The nominee’s current *curriculum vitae*.

C. An updated funding agreement.

D. Two outside letters.

VII. Types of appointments:

A. Deanship or University Librarian: Endowment funds provide a flexible resource for a dean or University librarian to meet special needs and opportunities in his/her college (but not as a supplement for the dean’s or librarian’s salary).

   1. Requires the University-wide minimum endowment per current UIF/UI agreement.

   2. Tied to position.

   3. Example title: “XXX Dean’s Chair in the Liberal Arts and Sciences.”

B. Faculty chair: The highest honor bestowed by the University on an outstanding member of the faculty. Endowment income is used as deemed appropriate by the dean of the
college and the provost to supplement the salary of the faculty member and/or to support the academic pursuits and endeavors of the holder of the chair.

1. Requires the University-wide minimum endowment per current UIF/UI agreement.

2. Fixed term of appointment with an expectation of renewal so long as the holder continues to meet the criteria for appointment to the chair.

3. Example title: “XXX Chair in Engineering.”

C. Named professorship: To recognize distinguished faculty and provide an annual amount in partial support of salary or teaching, research, or scholarship expenses.

1. Requires the University-wide minimum endowment (for endowed positions) or minimum guaranteed funding stream per current UIF/UI agreement.

2. Fixed term of appointment with or without expectation of renewal, as specified in the appointment letter.

3. Example title: “XXX Professor of Cardiology.”

D. Named faculty fellowship: To support faculty development in teaching or research from the junior (and above) ranks:

1. Requires the University-wide minimum endowment (for endowed positions) or minimum guaranteed funding stream per current UIF/UI agreement.

2. Fixed term of appointment.

3. Example title: “XXX Fellow of Law.”

E. Collegiate appointments (or other non-endowed, non-donor named faculty appointments):

1. Each college must have criteria and procedures approved by the provost.

2. Funding must be available to support these positions at the level required in the UIF naming guidelines document (http://president.uiowa.edu/files/president.uiowa.edu/files/NGRGuidelinesoftheUlandUIF.pdf), and the funds are to be provided solely by the collegiate unit. The naming college must confirm to the provost that an appropriate funding stream(s) has been established for the position and that the position conforms to UIF naming guidelines.

3. Appointments are decided at the collegiate level.
4. Collegiate appointments are renewable term appointments.

5. Holders of collegiate appointments will be designated in such a way that distinguishes them from donor-named University chairs and professors:
   a. Collegiate Fellow or Scholar
   b. College of XXX Distinguished Professor

VIII. Visiting chairs and professorships

Visiting named chairs and professorships are a special form of named faculty positions that are used to bring distinguished individuals to campus to enrich the academic environment for a specified period of time. *(Note: The Ida Cordelia Beam Distinguished Visiting Professors are governed by a separate set of guidelines that can be found at: http://provost.uiowa.edu/ida-cordelia-beam-distinguished-visiting-professorships-program.)*

Traditional named chair and professorship positions may be utilized for appointment of a visiting chair or professor in limited circumstances (e.g., where a nominee is not otherwise available nor expected within a reasonable timeframe for the traditional chair or professorship), subject to the criteria and approvals required for visiting named chairs or professorships and to any donor intent restrictions.

A. Appointments for visiting named chairs and professorships shall be term appointments and are approved by the provost.

1. Nominations for visiting named chairs and professorships must be submitted by the dean of the college to the provost.

2. Appointments are approved by the provost. The term of appointment for a chair or professorship may be a minimum of one semester and up to two years. Appointments may be renewed for up to an additional two year term with the approval of the provost (see Section V).

3. Renewal requires a review to ensure that the criteria for the initial selection of the holder of the position continue to be consistent with the donor’s intent, and that the holder of the position continues to meet the appointment criteria.

B. Criteria for appointment to a named visiting named chair or professorship

1. Distinguished achievements in academia or other career pursuits.

2. Received local, national, and/or international recognition in his/her field.
C. Materials to be submitted

1. A letter of nomination from the dean defining the nominee’s qualifications.

2. The nominee’s current *curriculum vitae* if he/she is an academic or comparable career profile if he/she is not an academic.

3. A statement from the dean detailing the responsibilities of the nominee while he/she holds the visiting chair or professorship and the expected length of term of the appointment.

4. Funding Agreement (see [http://provost.uiowa.edu/files/provost.uiowa.edu/files/funding_agreement.pdf](http://provost.uiowa.edu/files/provost.uiowa.edu/files/funding_agreement.pdf)). The naming college must complete a funding agreement, which must be signed by both the UI Foundation and the provost to confirm that an appropriate funding stream(s) has been established for the position and that the position conforms to UIF naming guidelines ([http://president.uiowa.edu/files/president.uiowa.edu/files/NGRGuidelinesoftheUIandUIF.pdf](http://president.uiowa.edu/files/president.uiowa.edu/files/NGRGuidelinesoftheUIandUIF.pdf)).

D. Renewal of a named visiting chair or professorship

The dean will submit:

1. A letter to the provost proposing the renewal and describing the campus activities of the nominee during his/her previous term.

2. An updated funding agreement.

E. Title

Example title: “XXX Visiting Professor of Nursing.”

F. Other

See the other sections of these guidelines regarding naming protocols, stewardship requirements, and publicity information imposing the same requirements on named visiting chairs and professorships as is required for permanent named positions.

IX. Naming protocols:

A. By law, donors are not permitted to designate a gift for a particular person as the holder of a named position.
B. Name selection: The exact name applied to an endowment fund or named temporary fund for faculty support will be agreed upon by the donor(s), the UI Foundation, and the appropriate UI dean/director with final approval reserved for the provost.

C. The generic name of a named faculty position should remain standard but may be preceded by a name suggested by the donor and followed by a collegiate or department modifier. If the appointee is an associate professor, the word “associate” appears in the title (e.g., the “Jane and John Doe Associate Professor of Chemistry”). Some examples might include:

1. For positions based on scholarship:
   a. John and Jane Doe Chair in Psychology
   b. Robert Smith Chair in Economics
   c. John and Jane Doe Professor of Psychology
   d. Robert Smith Professor of Economics

2. For positions based on teaching, the term “teaching” must modify the title (e.g., John Doe Teaching Professor in Economics).

3. For positions based on clinical practice, the term “clinical” must modify the title (e.g., John Doe Professor of Clinical Practice in Dermatology).

D. Additional modifying terms such as “distinguished” or “endowed” should be avoided.

X. Stewardship:

A. Deans are asked to cooperate with the UI Foundation to be sure that donors receive updates on the activities of the holders of named faculty positions at least annually.

B. Annual or periodic collegiate and/or University events recognizing donors of named faculty positions should be coordinated through the UI Foundation. To ensure appropriate donor stewardship and adequate record keeping, copies of all documentation related to any named appointments, fund agreements, and correspondence with donors will be kept on file with the UI Foundation.

XI. Publicity:

A. The Office of the Provost provides the collegiate dean with written notification of the approval of a named faculty appointment. The dean should inform the appointee in
writing, copied to the provost. Copies of notification documents are shared with the UI Foundation.

B. After the provost has officially approved the appointment, publicity related to named faculty appointments should be coordinated with the UI Foundation by the collegiate dean, consulting with the provost as necessary. Issues related to donor wishes to remain anonymous, campaign recognition, timing, etc., will all be considered before publicity moves forward.

C. Collegiate deans are responsible for communicating with collegiate staff about faculty appointments to named positions.

XII. **Retirement:**

Upon retirement, the holder of a permanent appointment may continue to use the title with “emeritus” added. Holders of term appointments will no longer carry the designation, but may continue to list the named faculty position on their *curricula vitae* with the term clearly stated.