

College of Science and Mathematics
Policy on Research Professorships
Originally approved by College Faculty on 1 October 2002
Approved with Amendments by College Faculty on 13 March 2003

Appointment - Faculty members whose primary function is research and whose salary is extramural may be appointed or promoted to a special term appointment in accordance with NDSU Policy 350.1.4.c (4) & (11). Appointments may be within one or more departments with one of the following ranks: Research Assistant Professor, Research Associate Professor, or Research Professor. If the appointment is a joint appointment between two units, the appointment must exceed 50% in one of the units.

Appointment Duration - The duration of the appointment is based upon extramural funding.

Position Description - The position is virtually 100% research; no teaching or university service is expected; however, professional service is an inherent responsibility of the position. The role that the appointee plays in departmental activities (such as attending departmental meetings, voting on departmental issues, serving on committees, etc.) shall be determined by the department. The appointee's role in graduate education shall be governed by the department and by the existing policies of the Graduate School.

Hiring Process - A Research Assistant Professor, Research Associate Professor, or Research Professor shall be hired using existing university policies and guidelines.

Salary - Salary shall be commensurate with rank and experience. Ultimately, the salary is determined by the unit's Chair, Dean, and Vice President.

No Tenure - Faculty with a term appointment as a Research Assistant Professor, Research Associate Professor, or Research Professor neither carry tenure nor are eligible for tenure.

Evaluation - An annual written evaluation will be completed by the department Chair. If the appointee is working within a research group, then the Chair shall consult with the Research Director or Principal Investigator for input on the appointee's evaluation. It is essential that the evaluation is based upon a current position description.

Promotion - Promotion is initiated via a departmental recommendation. The recommendation is reviewed by the College's Promotion, Tenure and Evaluation Committee, by the Dean, by the Vice President for Research, Creative Activities, and Technology Transfer, and by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Typically, promotion cannot be achieved until the candidate has spent a minimum of five years in rank. Promotion shall be based primarily on demonstrated success in publications and extramural funding.

Change in Status - At times, a Research Assistant Professor, Research Associate Professor, or Research Professor may pursue a change of status to a tenure-track position. If he/she were hired into the Research Professor position as a result of a national search and if he/she is deemed suitable for the tenure-track faculty position in an academic department, then the appointee may be appointed to this tenure-track position. A Research Professor changing to a tenure-track position may negotiate for years of credit towards tenure.

Indirect Costs - The policy on indirect costs shall be the same as it is for a tenure-track faculty member.