

U N I V E R S I T Y O F
CONNECTICUT

MARK A. EMMERT
Chancellor

September 15, 1998

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Mark A. Emmert *M.A.E.*

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION TO AMEND ARTICLE XV -- THE UNIVERSITY STAFF,
J. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES RELATING TO RANK, SALARY, AND
ADVANCEMENT, 5, OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT LAWS AND
BY-LAWS, TWELFTH EDITION REVISED, 1995

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approve the addition of a new section, specifically Article XV -- The University Staff, J. Policies and Procedures Relating to Rank, Salary, and Advancement, 5, as described in the attached, to the University of Connecticut Laws and By-Laws.

BACKGROUND:

A special subcommittee of the Faculty Standards Committee of the University Senate was convened last year, at the request of Chancellor Mark A. Emmert, to study the development of a new title intended to recognize the University's most outstanding scholars. Following research into prior practice at the University and after lengthy discussion, the subcommittee forwarded to the Faculty Standards Committee and, subsequently, to the University Senate, a set of recommendations for the establishment of a Distinguished Professor title.

On May 11, 1998, those recommendations were approved in concept by the Senate; the Faculty Standards Committee Chair, Gregory Anderson, and the Senate Executive Committee Chair, Peter Halvorson, were authorized to draft appropriate language for inclusion in the Laws and By-Laws.

The addition to the Laws and By-Laws, which is endorsed by the University Administration, is brought to the Board for its approval.

The procedure for selection of the Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor is attached.

Attachments



ARTICLE XV - - THE UNIVERSITY STAFF

(Add)

Section J - Policies and Procedures Relating to Rank, Salary and Advancement

5. Special Titles

a. Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor

1. The title "Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor" should be reserved exclusively to recognize faculty who have achieved exceptional distinction in scholarship, teaching and service while at the University of Connecticut.
2. The Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor title will be conferred as a result of a peer review process. The Review Committee will solicit and screen initial nominations. After selecting a list of finalists, the Review Committee will obtain detailed information including materials from external sources and recommend candidates to the Board of Trustees via the Chancellor.
3. The title should be awarded to up to five persons per year up to a maximum of 5% of the full professors on the active faculty.

**PROCEDURES FOR SELECTION OF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR**

- 1) The title Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor should be reserved exclusively as indicated in the Laws and By-Laws.
 - A. No other faculty title should contain the name – Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor.
 - B. The Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor title will remain with the individual through her/his career and into retirement; however, when the faculty member achieves emeritus/emerita status, they will no longer be counted in the 5% total.

- 2) The Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professor title will be conferred as a result of a peer review process.
 - A. The Review Committee will be appointed by the Chancellor (Provost) on a rotating basis.
 - B. Initial nominations may come from colleagues, or via self-nomination, and will consist of a one-page summary highlighting the nominee's achievements, and a complete curriculum vitae.
 - C. The Review Committee will solicit and screen the nominations, and select a set of finalists.
 - D. External letters of recommendation (five) will be solicited for each finalist along with other documentation.
 - E. As indicated in the Laws and By-Laws, the Review Committee will select from among the finalists and recommend candidates to the Board of Trustees through the Chancellor (Provost).

- 3) The awarding of the University's highest academic honor should be celebrated accordingly.
 - A. The formal announcement of the awards should become a major event for the University held at a venue that will maximize the exposure of the accomplishments of the awardees.
 - B. The awards should be publicized widely within the University and in the external media.
 - C. Each awardee will present a University lecture open to all members of the community. These lectures should hold a pre-eminent place on the University's academic calendar, occurring two or three times a semester as dictated by the number of candidates selected, and with appropriate ceremony and publicity.
 - D. Names of all Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professors will be permanently displayed in a prominent location.

- 4) The Board of Trustees' Distinguished Professors will serve as informal advisors to the Provost, other Administrators, and other bodies at the University.