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3021: GENERAL GUIDELINES

In many ways the Adjunct Professor series parallels that of the Professor series. While the Adjunct title does not confer Senate membership, this campus-affiliated faculty is expected to adhere to UC Merced’s rigorous standards of scholarship, making significant contributions to its research and teaching endeavors. Academic personnel policy and procedures for the Adjunct title generally mimic those for the Professor title. Distinctions are described in this section but, when appropriate, a reader is referred to MAPP Chapter 2 (Professor Series).

A. RANKS & CRITERIA

Appointments in this series are made to individuals who are affiliated with UC Merced through their participation in the campus' research and teaching activities. Appointees may be predominantly engaged in research or in teaching, as long as they make some contribution to both. If research ceases to be a part of the appointee's duties, the individual should be considered for transfer to an instruction-only title. Appointees are also to engage in University and public service consistent with their assignments. Please refer to APM 210-1-d for a description of the teaching, research, and service criteria.

Adjunct Professor appointment and advancement cases must clearly state the assigned duties and responsibilities for review at all levels of the AP process (APM 280-4 and 280-10). An Adjunct faculty member needs to be apprised at the time of appointment of the nature of the appointment, and relevant duties and responsibilities.

It is expected that an appointment in the Adjunct Professor series be made at a certain percentage (full-time, or part-time), whether for pay or not. The Case Analysis is then expected to analyze the Adjunct faculty member's performance relative to both the appointment percentage and the agreed-upon duties and responsibilities.

Titles for the Adjunct series are listed below. Ranks and steps in this series correspond with those in the Professor series. An appointment or reappointment should be made at a level that is appropriate for the candidate's scholarly and creative productivity and achievement.

Adjunct Professor Titles

- Assistant Adjunct Professor
- Associate Adjunct Professor
- Adjunct Professor

B. FUNDING

Appointments made to the Adjunct series should be supported primarily by non-State funds, and no more than one half of the Adjunct appointment may be supported by State funds (19900 – 19999).

Authority to grant exceptions to this policy belongs only to the Chancellor and cannot be redelegated. Requests for exceptions must be written, addressed to the Chancellor, provide clear justification for the exception, and adhere to the eight-year limitation as stated in APM 280-16-b (2). The requests originate with the relevant Unit.
Chair or Dean and have the Dean’s approval via her or his signature. Once submitted to APO, the request will be forwarded to the Chancellor for approval. All exceptions must be approved prior to commencing the appointment process.

C. SALARY

Appointments may be made with or without salary. For appointments with salary, the academic salary scales for the regular Professor series shall apply, subject to the terms of the compensation plan and adjusted to reflect percentage time.

Appointments may be made at full-time or part-time. The assigned percentage time should accurately reflect the expected workload carried with an appointment to this title. It should not be confused with salary rate. For example, an appointee may make research and teaching contributions to UC Merced that are consistent with a 20 percent time appointment, even though the appointment was made without salary.

D. TERMS OF SERVICE

An appointment or a reappointment to an Adjunct title is made with a specified ending date. This is communicated to the appointee in the Appointment Letter or the Reappointment Letter.

Maximum terms for appointments and reappointments are provided below; when appropriate, recommended terms may be shorter. Reappointments may be made to the same rank and step, i.e., without a merit increase or promotion. Effective beginning and ending dates of an appointment generally coincide with the University’s fiscal calendar, which begins on July 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Max. Appt. Term</th>
<th>Service Limit(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Adjunct Professor (50% time or less)</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Adjunct Professor (51% time or more)</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>8 Years (See Section E)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Adjunct Professor, Steps I, II, and III</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Adjunct Professor, Steps IV and V</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjunct Professor</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. NORMAL PERIOD AT STEP & LIMITATIONS OF SERVICE

In computing time for the Adjunct title, only those semesters at more than 50 percent time count. The normal periods of service at each step in this series coincide with those of the Professor series as described in APM 220-18-b.

An eight-year limitation of service applies to appointees who hold the Assistant Adjunct Professor title, either in that title alone or when combined with those titles listed in APM 133-0-c. Assistant Adjunct Professors normally undergo a Mid-Career Appraisal.
3022: RECRUITMENT

A. RECRUITMENT DATA

Unless a competitive affirmative action search takes place, recruitment data do not pertain to the appointment and are thus not included in the appointment case file. If a competitive affirmative action search takes place, refer to MAPP 2012 for pertinent policies and procedures.
3023: APPOINTMENT

Because Adjunct appointees are considered to be affiliated faculty of UC Merced, the same academic personnel procedures and standards of excellence for the Professor series apply to the Adjunct series. For general appointment processes and guidelines, please refer to MAPP 2013, taking into consideration the exceptions and additions listed below.

A. CASE ANALYSIS

The Case Analysis should make a clear justification for the proposed appointment or reappointment. It should address the recommended rank and step, providing solid evidence that supports the level of the appointment or reappointment.

B. TRANSMITTAL LETTER & DEAN’S RECOMMENDATION LETTER

Both the Transmittal Letter and the Dean’s Recommendation Letter should articulate specific justification for each appointment in order to gain the support of the Committee on Academic Personnel and the approval of the Provost/EVC.

Towards that goal, the letters should address the following:

1. The quality of the candidate and her/his specific ability to contribute to the unit, the program, and/or the campus;
2. The value added to the program/unit mission not currently afforded by the ladder-rank and other faculty;
3. Whether the recommendation is without salary and the proposed percentage of time of the appointment;
4. The appropriate funding source. Special and additional permission is required if there is a proposal to use State funds (19900-19999);
5. The beginning and specific ending date of the appointment;
6. The specific assignment of duties and responsibilities. Evaluation and subsequent reviews of the candidate shall be based upon the candidate’s specific assignment and be consistent with APM 280;
7. The specific appropriateness of the candidate’s abilities and background with respect to the assigned duty and responsibilities.

C. APPOINTMENT LETTER

The Appointment or Reappointment Letter must indicate the ending date of the appointment and include the following text:

“University policy requires that you be informed of the following: appointments to the title of <rank> Adjunct Professor are self-terminating (no further notice of non-reappointment will be forthcoming) and do not create an obligation on the part of the university to either extend or renew the appointment.”

D. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PATENT POLICY

All Adjunct faculty participating in research as employees or otherwise, with or without salary, shall execute a University of California Patent Policy as a condition of receiving their adjunct faculty appointment. Notwithstanding the above, an individual acknowledges that he or she is bound by the University of California Patent Policy by accepting or continuing University employment or by using University resources, facilities, or interacting with University faculty and staff. Failure to sign the Policy shall result in the appointment not being granted.
3024: MERIT, PROMOTION, APPRAISAL REVIEW

Section Under Construction: Please refer to MAPP 2014 for information on merit, promotion and appraisal review.
3026: DISCIPLINE

This policy provides the standards and procedures for instituting corrective action or dismissal of non-Senate academic appointees. Corrective action or dismissal may be instituted for good cause, including but not limited to: misconduct, unsatisfactory work performance, or dereliction of academic duty. For non-Senate academic appointees who are subject to peer review for performance evaluation, demotion and dismissal for unsatisfactory work performance shall involve the regular peer review process. Such peer review shall be advisory to the administrator authorized to institute the demotion and dismissal action.

RESPONSIBILITY

Unit Chairs, supervisors and other appropriate administrative authorities have the responsibility to ensure that each appointee has the appropriate training and mentoring opportunities in order to successfully carry out the job duties and responsibilities of his or her position. It is expected that each aforementioned supervisor will ensure that timely communications, documentation and performance review have occurred prior to initiating corrective action and/or any recommendation for dismissal.

PRIOR TO INSTITUTING ACTION

Prior to instituting corrective action and/or dismissal as described in the sections that follow, efforts to resolve the problem should be attempted.

For performance-related issues, supervisors are responsible for counseling individuals as deficiencies in job duties occur. If deficiencies continue, counseling memos should be issued to the appointee. The documentation, in the form of a counseling memo should clearly identify the problem area(s), the expected standards, and refer to any previous discussions the supervisor has had with the appointee. The supervisor should follow up with the appointee at an appropriate interval, informing him or her whether the deficiency has been corrected or further improvement is required.

Performance reviews should appropriately address any deficiencies that required documentation. If during the course of the performance review it is determined that previously acknowledged deficiencies still exist or performance continues to be unsatisfactory, corrective action should be instituted.

For actions that involve serious misconduct, such as those involving the health and safety of other University employees, or that may involve the misuse of University property, it may be appropriate to initiate corrective action and/or dismissal immediately.

TYPES OF CORRECTIVE ACTION AND DISMISSAL

Corrective actions include written warning with consequence, written censure, suspension without pay, or demotion. Corrective action shall normally be taken in progressive steps, beginning with a written warning, except when corrective action is the result of conduct which an appointee knows or reasonably should have known was unsatisfactory. Unsatisfactory conduct may include but is not limited to dishonesty, theft or misappropriation of University property, fighting on the job, insubordination, acts endangering others, sexual harassment or other serious misconduct.

Written warning is a formal communication that informs the appointee of a deficiency in performance or an incident of misconduct. A written warning contains not only the specifics of the performance or an incident, but also a method for correction and a clear statement of the probable consequence if the deficiency or misconduct is not corrected.

Written censure is a formal reprimand that conveys institutional rebuke. It may be issued to an appointee for performance or conduct the appointee knows or reasonably should have known was inappropriate or unsatisfactory. Written censure informs the appointee of the serious nature of the event. A written notice of intent must precede the issuance of a written censure.
Suspension is debarment without pay from the appointee’s responsibilities for a stated period of time. An appointee may be suspended for performance or conduct the appointee knows or reasonably should have known was inappropriate or unsatisfactory. A written notice of intent to suspend must precede the issuance of a written notice of suspension.

Demotion is a temporary or indefinite reduction in rank, step, and/or salary. An appointee may be demoted for performance or conduct the appointee knows or reasonably should have known was inappropriate or unsatisfactory. A written notice of intent to demote must precede the issuance of a written notice of suspension. For non-Senate academic appointees who are subject to peer review for performance evaluation, demotion for unsatisfactory work performance shall involve the regular peer review process.

Dismissal is the termination of employment initiated by the University prior to the ending date of appointment. An appointee may be dismissed for continued poor performance as a consequence of a previous written warning. An appointee may also be dismissed without previous written warning or as a result of conduct the appointee knows or reasonably should have known was unsatisfactory or inappropriate. In both cases, a written notice of intent to dismiss must precede the issuance of a written notice of dismissal. For non-Senate academic appointees who are subject to peer review for performance evaluation, dismissal for unsatisfactory work performance shall involve the regular peer review process.

PROCEDURES

Corrective action or dismissal as defined by this policy is subject to review and approval of the Vice Provost for Academic Personnel.

A. INVESTIGATORY LEAVE

An appointee may be placed on an immediate investigatory leave with pay without prior written notice for the purpose of reviewing or investigating charges of misconduct or dereliction of duty, which, in the judgment of the supervisor, requires removal of the appointee from responsibilities and/or University premises. Such investigatory leave must be confirmed in writing to the appointee normally within five working days after the leave is effective. The notice shall include the reasons for and the expected duration of the leave.

B. WRITTEN WARNING

A written warning issued under this policy as a result of continued poor performance, a less than satisfactory performance review, or due to inappropriate or unsatisfactory conduct must state the serious nature of the performance or conduct and a probable consequence appropriate to the circumstance.

C. WRITTEN NOTICE OF INTENT

A written notice of intent shall be provided to the appointee prior to initiating a written censure, suspension without pay, demotion, or dismissal. Notice of intent is not required for a written warning. The notice of intent shall provide:

- the serious nature of the deficiency or conduct;
- the intended action, including any salary consequence of the action;
- proposed effective date;
- reason for the action and or basis of the charges, including copies of pertinent material upon which the intended action was based;
- the appointee’s right to respond either orally or in writing within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of issuance of the written notice of intent;
- the name of the person to whom the appointee should respond.
D. WRITTEN NOTICE OF ACTION

Following the review of an appointee’s oral or written response, if any, to the notice of intent, a written notice of action shall be issued to the appointee. The notice of action shall be issued within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of issuance of the written notice of intent. Such notice of action shall:

- notify the appointee of the corrective action or dismissal to be taken;
- notify the appointee of the effective date of the action;
- notify the appointee of the right to grieve the action under APM 140.

The notice of action may specify corrective action less severe than that described in the notice of intent, or it may specify that no corrective action will be taken; however the notice of action may not include an action more severe than that described in the notice of intent.

E. REPRESENTATION

An appointee may be self-represented or may be represented by another person at any stage of the corrective action or dismissal process.

F. EXTENSION OF TIME

Prior to the expiration of any time limit, extensions may be granted for good cause by the Vice Provost for Academic Personnel.

G. RECORDS

A copy of the written warning, written censure, suspension, demotion, dismissal, the written notice of intent, and a copy of all supporting documents upon which the decision to take corrective action or dismissal was based shall be placed in the appointee’s official personnel file. Such materials may be considered in connection with a recommendation or decision in a personnel action involving the individual if the materials are made part of the personnel review by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Personnel. An appointee shall have the right to have inserted into the personnel file any statement or response to these materials in accordance with APM 160-30.

H. NOTICE PROCEDURES

Any notice to the appointee pursuant to this procedure shall be deemed conclusive by delivery to the appointee’s last known address.
3027: GRIEVANCE PROCESS

A non-Senate academic appointee is entitled to select only one grievance review mechanism (APM 150-40). For a non-Senate academic appointee with a term appointment, if the hearing has not commenced by the ending of the appointment, the dismissal becomes a non-reappointment effective at the end of the appointment. The appointee has 30 days from the ending date of the appointment to grieve the non-reappointment (APM 137, APM 140). The grievance should be submitted in writing to the Vice Provost for Academic Personnel.