



Bowling Green State University

Guidelines for Distinguished Teaching Professor

The Teaching Professorship was established in 1982 by the Board of Trustees and was renamed as Distinguished Teaching professor in 1986. The title is conferred upon select members of the faculty holding the rank of professor whose extraordinary achievements as effective teachers over an extended period of time deserve special recognition. Only one such title will be conferred in a given year.

Nomination procedures. A faculty review committee examines all nominations and makes a recommendation. The review committee has established the following guidelines for the professorship. Nominations will be accepted from any of three sources:

- an ad hoc committee of at least three peer faculty,
- a standing personnel or evaluation committee of a department/school or program, or
- a chair/director, program director, or dean.

In the interests of recognizing those who have made sustained contributions to the intellectual life of the University, the nominations are limited to professors with at least five years of service at BGSU.

Criteria of teaching excellence. The criteria of excellence in teaching varies considerably with the distinctive missions of colleges, schools, departments, and programs. Therefore, the committee members will rely on broad criteria of teaching excellence. Among such criteria are:

- current knowledge of subject matter,
- responsible coverage of the subject,
- organization of course design and material,
- clarity of presentation, and
- effectiveness of communication of the value of the subject matter.
- nominees' capacity to instill and sustain interest, enthusiasm, and dedication in students,
- ability to establish rapport with students,
- pedagogical flexibility and creativity, and
- skill in evaluation
- the extent to which nominees encourage critical thinking and establish an atmosphere conducive to learning.

Measurable evidence of excellence. Faculty within the various units on campus have an understanding of the criteria of excellence appropriate to teaching within their disciplines or interdisciplinary fields. Accordingly, the letters of nomination should articulate an understanding of the distinctive excellence of the nominee. In addition, the nomination should include materials which provide evidence that the nominee has a sustained record as an excellent teacher. This evidence could include such things as:

- student evaluations,
- student successes within or beyond courses,
- peer evaluations,
- alumni evaluations,
- production of papers and articles addressing pedagogical issues,
- reputation as an effective teacher beyond the local student population, etc.

The responsibility for gathering relevant evidence in support of the nominee's superior performance is vested primarily in the nominating body, i.e., the person or persons who should be most well-acquainted with the professor as a teacher of distinction.

Committee assessment. The nominations and accompanying materials will be reviewed by the Committee. Structured interviews with finalists and with a sampling of undergraduate and graduate students will be scheduled. Committee members will also conduct classroom visitations.

The Committee's recommendation is sent to the Vice President for Academic Affairs who after consultation with the academic deans forwards a recommendation to the President for referral to the Board of Trustees.