

SUNY Distinguished Ranks Faculty Awards Program Inception – 1963

SUNY faculty have made outstanding contributions to their respective professional fields, campuses, communities and the public at large. SUNY is proud to salute their dedication and ongoing commitment to excellence, and support their professional development through a number of prestigious award programs. The Distinguished Faculty medallion, specifically commissioned to commemorate this distinction, is awarded to each newly-appointed faculty member. The four designations comprising Distinguished Faculty Rank are:

The **Distinguished Professorship** is conferred upon individuals at SUNY's state-operated campuses who have achieved national or international prominence and a distinguished reputation within the individual's chosen field. This distinction is attained through significant contributions to the research literature or through artistic performance or achievement in the fine and performing arts. The candidates' work must be of such character that the individuals' presence will elevate the standards of scholarship of colleagues both within and beyond the individual's academic field. It must also be of such quality that students and scholars on other SUNY campuses could and do benefit by lectures and seminars, or other appropriate presentations the faculty members might bring to them.

Appointment constitutes a promotion to the SUNY's highest academic rank and is conferred solely by the SUNY Board of Trustees. The expectation is that individuals so appointed will be accorded such support as is appropriate to the individual's academic endeavor, consistent with the resources of the campus, including a salary above the mean salary for full professors.

The **Distinguished Service Professorship** is conferred upon instructional faculty at SUNY's state-operated and community colleges who have achieved a notable reputation for extraordinary service not only to the campus and to SUNY, but also to the community, the State of New York and/or even the nation, by sustained effort in the application of intellectual skills drawing from the candidate's scholarly and research interests to issues of public concern. Further, many candidates for appointment have rendered influential service contributing at the international level. To be eligible for the nomination, service must exceed the work generally considered to be a part of a candidate's basic professional work (professional committees, etc.) and should include service that exceeds that for which professors are normally compensated. More importantly, the service must extend over multiple years.

In addition to the selection criteria for the Distinguished Service Professorship, to be nominated, a faculty member must have held the rank of full professor for five years, should have no less than three years of full-time service at the nominating institution, and have completed at least 10 years of full-time service to SUNY.

It is expected that individuals so appointed will be accorded such support as is appropriate to their endeavors consistent with the resources of the campus. At the SUNY State-operated campuses, appointment to the Distinguished Service or Distinguished Teaching level is a promotion that carries tenure in rank, if it has not already been attained, and a salary increase of up to \$2,500. (This is in addition to any negotiated general salary increase). Such increases will

be funded from the campus budget through the normal process for funding promotions. The increase is built into the salary base of the appointee, and it must be included in campus budgets of ensuing years.

If the award is a change in faculty rank at the SUNY Community College, then the State-operated campuses statement above applies. If it is an honorific distinction, the community college will decide if there is a monetary sum associated with the Distinguished Service or Distinguished Teaching award.

The **Distinguished Teaching Professorship** recognizes and honors mastery of teaching at the graduate, undergraduate or professional levels. For this prestigious tribute to be conferred, candidates must have demonstrated consistently superior mastery of teaching, outstanding service to students and commitment to their ongoing intellectual growth, scholarship and professional growth, and adherence to rigorous academic standards and requirements. Further, to be eligible for nomination, a faculty member must have attained and held the rank of full professor for five years, have completed at least three years of full-time teaching on the nominating campus, 10 years of full-time teaching within the SUNY System, and must have regularly carried a full-time teaching load as defined by the campus.

It is expected that individuals so appointed will be accorded such support as is appropriate to their endeavors consistent with the resources of the campus. At the SUNY State-operated campuses, appointment to the Distinguished Service or Distinguished Teaching level is a promotion that carries tenure in rank, if it has not already been attained, and a salary increase of up to \$2,500. (This is in addition to any negotiated general salary increase). Such increases will be funded from the campus budget through the normal process for funding promotions. The increase is built into the salary base of the appointee, and it must be included in campus budgets of ensuing years.

If the award is a change in faculty rank at the SUNY Community College, then the State-operated campuses statement above applies. If it is an honorific distinction, the community college will decide if there is a monetary sum associated with the Distinguished Service or Distinguished Teaching award.

The **Distinguished Librarian Professorship** is a prestigious tenured University rank that is awarded to librarians whose contributions have been transformational in creating a new information environment by providing access to information, sharing or networking information resources, and fostering information literacy. In extending its "Distinguished" ranks to the library faculty, SUNY recognizes the accomplishments of all its faculty and assumes national leadership within the academy by becoming the first university system to so encourage and foster the full potential of the faculty status of librarians. The Distinguished Librarian rank honors and promotes the achievement of personal excellence, groundbreaking professional progress, and wide-ranging benefit to the academic community. This rank parallels the Distinguished Professor rank in terms of expected level of accomplishment and the rarity in awarding the rank. The Distinguished Librarian rank is open to State-operated campuses of the State University of New York.

Distinguished Librarian is a rank above Full Librarian. It is expected that a person appointed to the rank shall be accorded such support as is appropriate to her or his endeavors consistent with the resources of the campus. Appointment to Distinguished Librarian by the Board of Trustees is regarded as a promotion and will carry a salary increase above the mean salary for Full Librarians, to be determined by the campus President and the Chancellor. The increase will be funded from the campus budget through the normal process for funding promotions; it shall be built into the salary base of the appointee and must be included in the campus budgets of ensuing years.