

Reported to the Board of Trustees
May 21, 2026

April 22, 2026

Members of the Board of Trustees
University of Illinois

VIA: President Timothy Kileen

At the May 29, 2013 Board meeting, the University of Illinois Chicago reported the creation of a Collegiate Professorship Program. This program provided an additional award opportunity to recognize distinguished tenured faculty members.

In 2025, university leadership reviewed the criteria and identified that the program should be expanded to include non-tenured advanced rank faculty. This change is intended to provide deans with additional flexibility in awarding honorifics to highly productive clinical, research, and teaching faculty and serve as a retention tool in specific cases.

The modifications have been reviewed, discussed, and endorsed by the UIC Senate, deans of the colleges, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, vice chancellor for health affairs, the executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs, and the president of the University of Illinois System.

A redline copy is provided for the Board's information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marie Lynn Miranda".

Marie Lynn Miranda

Chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago
Vice President, University of Illinois System

Attachments

**Description and Guidelines for
Collegiate Professorship Program
University of Illinois ~~at~~ Chicago**

Collegiate professorships are one of the highest honors UIC offers tenured and non-tenured advanced rank faculty members who through demonstrated excellence in research, scholarship, clinical, and teaching merit recognition as a collegiate professor. The collegiate professorship is a five-year renewable award designation and entitles the incumbent to a \$10,000 minimum annual salary stipend (faculty honorarium) and a \$10,000 minimum annual discretionary research fund for use at the awardee's discretion, to be utilized in accordance with University policy and subject to appropriate approvals, for a set period of five years. These appointment arrangements will be presented to the Board of Trustees annually at the time all other annual and continuing faculty appointments are presented and at other times during the year when such awards are made.

There are two types of collegiate professorship awards:

- Recognition of a distinguished faculty member within a college or school who presents a record of excellence in research, scholarship, clinical service, and /or teaching. For this type of collegiate professorship, there are two sources of funding: college resources and donor gift funds.
 - The designated name of a collegiate professorship will typically be the name of a former faculty member in the recipient's department who made substantial contributions while at the University of Illinois ~~at~~ Chicago. Former students, colleagues and other professional and personal associates of the faculty member for whom the professorship is named will be contacted for fund-raising for such a Collegiate Professorship. In the event that one donor contributes the full amount required to fund a Collegiate Professorship, the professorship may be named for the former faculty member ~~and~~ or the donor.
 - The designated name of a collegiate professorship established with gift funds beginning at a minimum gift of \$500,000 may be that of the donor or someone the donor wishes to honor. The stipends (and sometimes regular salary support) for collegiate professorships funded by gift funds will be paid directly from the collegiate professorship gift agreement. The proposed candidate will be recommended by his/her department or comparable unit, and the recommendation will be submitted by the department head or similar administrator to the executive committee of the college for approval to be accompanied by concurrence and endorsement by the dean of the college.
- Incentive recognition of a distinguished faculty member outside UIC whom the unit is recruiting to UIC. Such a candidate should present a demonstrated record of excellence in research, scholarship, clinical service, and /or teaching and hold the rank of full professor at another

institution of higher education¹. For those collegiate professorships funded by the college or school, the designated name of the collegiate professorship may be selected by the candidate in consultation with and endorsed by the department, the college executive committee, the dean, and with final approval by the provost and the chancellor. For college or school funded collegiate professorships, the stipend will be paid via the established University budgeting procedures.

GUIDELINES

Nominees² for collegiate professor must present:

1. A demonstrated record of excellence in research and scholarly achievement that advances knowledge in the social sciences, the natural or physical sciences, engineering, health, education, human services, the arts, the humanities or other academic disciplines;
2. A consistent record of excellence in teaching.

Individual colleges may establish additional criteria for evaluating nominees for collegiate professorship awards and are encouraged to develop college-specific guidelines and define metrics to measure excellence. The criteria established by the college or school must at minimum correspond to the above-referenced campus qualifications for consideration.

Nomination process:

- Nominations are made by the chair/head/director of a department or division and submitted with a justification to the dean of the college or school.
- A one-page description of the nominee's qualifications and accomplishments that articulates a rationale for the person's selection for the award is requested. Descriptions should offer specific information and examples of excellent research, scholarship and teaching.
- A copy of the nominee's current Curriculum Vitae.
- A maximum of five (5) letters of support with at least three coming from outside the ~~Chicago campus~~ university from individuals from peer institutions knowledgeable of the nominee's work that demonstrate the nominee's significant contributions to his/her field.

¹ Exceptions for tenured associate professors as part of a recruitment ~~or retention~~ effort ~~and any other recommended exceptions~~ require pre-approval by the provost and chancellor.

² Any tenured ~~or non-tenured associate or~~ full professor employed at UIC or any tenured full professor at another institution of higher education who is being recruited to UIC is eligible. ~~Exceptions will require pre-approval by the provost and the chancellor.~~

Faculty members at UIC holding University Distinguished, UIC Distinguished, or college-specific distinguished professorships, as well as those holding endowed or other named professorships at UIC, are not eligible for the Collegiate Professorship Program award.

- A one-page description of the scholarly contributions of the deceased or retired faculty member who is proposed as the person for whom a collegiate professorship will be named with a rationale for why this naming is appropriate.
- A description of the funding source and its capacity for supporting a collegiate professorship for the particular candidate for the full five-year period.
- Following these procedures, the dean then recommends the college's collegiate professorship nomination to the provost and chancellor for approval.

Initially, the number of available collegiate professorships per college is to be determined by the number of award-eligible faculty members (one per every thirty full-time tenured faculty members) in the college or school. In colleges where there are fewer than 30 full-time tenured faculty members, one collegiate professorship will be designated. Again, faculty members currently holding distinguished, endowed or named professorships in any college or school at UIC are not eligible. Long-term funding for the Collegiate Professorship Program will depend on the availability of funds from the two sources noted above.

5-year evaluation for collegiate professorship renewals:

- During the fourth year of appointment to a collegiate professorship, an awardee will provide the dean of the college and its executive committee with a report of accomplishments over his/her tenure as a collegiate professor. Renewal endorsements will be based on the collegiate professor's continued employment status at UIC and her/his record of productivity over the four-year period and continuing.
- If it is determined that the awardee's productivity did not meet the expectations for the collegiate professorship, the collegiate professorship title for that individual faculty member will end after the fifth year.
- In such a case, the available collegiate professorship may be awarded to another deserving faculty member within the college or school following the same nomination and evaluation process noted above. If an awardee of a collegiate professorship retires or leaves UIC, the collegiate professorship title may be re-awarded in the same manner~~will also be retired and the funds terminated.~~