

Policy Title	Distinguished Professors/Researchers
Responsible AIU Office (Higher Management/Directorate)	[Following the request of the Policy Owner, the Responsible AIU Office within the corresponding Higher Management or Directorate will develop and administer a particular policy and procedures and will be accountable for the accuracy of its subject matter, its compliance with the pertinent legal and regulatory frameworks, its issuance, regular review and timely updating.]
Policy Owner (Executive Department/Office)	[The Office, Department, or Unit responsible for carrying out or oversight of said policy. The owner is accountable for and charged with triggering the creation of, implementing, enforcing, and updating the subject University policy, and developing/recommending relevant communication, education, and training and monitoring the effectiveness of a policy.]
Pertinent Dates	[Dates the policy was created, expired, revised, approved, and became effective.]

I. ENDOWED CHAIR OR NAMED PROFESSORSHIP

Some professorial positions are supported by endowments, which are contributions from individuals or institutions that are put into interest-generating trust funds to provide permanent funding for professorships in given fields or disciplines. These positions are typically named by the donor (“the ABC chair in, or the ABC Professor of, XYZ Studies”). Some endowed chairs are accompanied by endowments supporting research funds for the use of the chair holder. Faculty named to endowed professorships are typically among the most distinguished professors at the University; faculty may be recruited from outside the University or nominated to vacant chairs from within; in either case requests to fill named professorships are solicited from relevant departments by School deans who then propose candidates for appointment by the Provost.

II. DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

In recognition of exceptional scholarly merit of the highest distinction, recognized excellence in teaching, and extended service to the University, the Trustees appoint a limited number of senior faculty members to the grade of Distinguished University Professor. Only six professors may hold this title at the same time. Candidates for appointment as a Distinguished University Professor are nominated to the Trustees by the President on the recommendation of the Provost, in consultation with the Provost’s Council and members of the Executive Committee of the University Senate. Distinguished University Professors serve the University as a whole rather than a specific School or department. Their teaching assignments may be within their own discipline or, reflecting interdisciplinary interests, range across schools and departments. Specific course assignments are determined by the Provost with the advice of the appropriate deans and department chairs.

III. TEMPORARY DISTINGUISHED APPOINTMENTS

The University offers other types of temporary distinguished appointments which include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Distinguished Visiting Professor Program

The AIU Distinguished Visiting Professor (DVP) program is a special initiative with University-wide support, mission, and focus. Aligned with the University strategic plan, the goals of the program are to support the expansion and strengthening of international partnerships, to expand international learning experiences for all students, and to ensure maximum impact of the University's research through both knowledge exchange activities and promotion of the University's research. Every academic year, nominations are welcomed from each school. The Office of the Provost will notify schools with the final DVP list. The Provost may seek balance with regard to disciplines represented, but need not mechanically rotate the award between schools, and preference will be based on nominee quality. Strong preference will be given to those who are planned to stay for one semester. The minimum period of stay is one month and the maximum is one year. Nominees with broad appeal to multiple fields will also be favored.

2. Distinguished Visiting Researchers Program

Every year, the Distinguished Visiting Researchers Program (DVRP) brings eminent scholars to give at least two lectures in their field, and to interact with faculty and students. The program is designed to foster a spirit of intellectual and scholarly inquiry among faculty, staff, students and the wider community. The goals of the program are to foster collaborations and partnerships between AIU and internationally recognized researchers, to enrich the research experience of students by giving them the opportunity to meet and work with leading researchers, and to increase the visibility of AIU in the international research community.

Every academic year, nominations are welcomed from each school. The Provost, in consultation with the Vice Provost, will notify schools with the final DVRP candidates' list. The Provost may seek balance with regard to disciplines represented, though there is no rigid requirement to rotate the award between schools, and resource allocations will be based on nominee quality. Nominees with broad appeal to multiple fields will be given priority.

IV. CONTACT INFORMATION

[Lists relevant position titles and/or offices who may be contacted by University community members for any questions about the policy.]

Triggered by:	Name	Date	Sig.
Created by:	Name	Date	Sig.
Revised by:	Name	Date	Sig.
Approved by:	Name	Date	Sig.