Policy Name: Regents Professor

Policy Number: 7.24

Is this policy new, being reviewed/revised, or deleted? Review/Revise

Date of last revision, if applicable: 11/2/2015

Unit(s) Responsible for Policy Implementation: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Purpose of Policy (what does it do): This policy outlines the criteria for Regents Professor.

Reason for the addition, revision, or deletion (check all that apply):

- [x] Scheduled Review
- [ ] Change in law
- [ ] Response to audit finding
- [ ] Internal Review
- [ ] Other, please explain:

Please complete the appropriate section:

Specific rationale for new policy:

Specific rationale for each substantive revision:
Name change to Regents Scholar proposed to clarify award as an honorary title and not an academic rank. Change minimum service to SFA from 10 years to 5 years because 10 year service time considered too long to qualify for award. Faculty nomination seconded by another faculty member to strengthen nomination process by involving more than just one faculty nominator. Submit letter of nomination through academic unit leader, dean then provost and vice president for academic affairs. Removed procedure from policy regarding dossier requirements. Faculty nominees not selected remain in candidate pool for two additional years to increase qualified candidate pool each year. Add additional recognitions to raise profile of the award. Delete public lecture requirement due to consistently low participation by campus and off-campus community for many years.

Specific rationale for deletion of policy:

Additional Comments:
Reviewers:

Academic Affairs Policy Committee
Steve Bullard, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Damon Derrick, General Counsel
Regents Professor Scholar

Original Implementation: October, 1979
Last Revision: November 2, 2015
July 23, 2019

The title of Regents Professor Scholar is the highest honor that the university may bestow upon a member of the faculty. The honor is reserved for faculty members who are exemplary role models to the university community. The title of Regents Professor Scholar is not an academic rank, but an honorary title held for the duration of the recipient’s service to the university and is held for one academic year.

1. Only tenured full professors are eligible for nomination. They must have served a minimum of ten years at Stephen F. Austin State University, have been in rank for a minimum of five years, and will remain on active service during the academic year of the award. Previous recipients of the award are ineligible.

2. Faculty members are nominated on the basis of extraordinary merit in teaching, research/scholarly/creative accomplishment, and service. Evidence of exceptional performance must exist in each category.

3. A nomination may be submitted by any tenured member of the university faculty. The nomination must be seconded by another tenured member of the faculty. The nomination and second are submitted by letters through the relevant academic unit leader and dean, then to the provost and vice president for academic affairs. A letter of nomination may be submitted by any tenured member of the faculty to the provost and vice president for academic affairs.

4. Upon acceptance of a nomination, the nominator and second will assist the nominee in preparing a dossier. The instructions for preparing and submitting the dossier can be found on the “Regents Scholar Award” page of the Academic Affairs website. It includes: a current curriculum vitae, evidence of exceptional teaching, evidence of exceptional research/scholarly/creative accomplishment, and evidence of exceptional service.

5. The provost and vice president for academic affairs appoints a review panel of six from the ranks of former Regents Professor Scholars (formerly titled Regents Professors) and deans, with attention to disciplinary balance. The review panel will examine the dossiers independently and vote by anonymous ballot.

6. The provost and vice president for academic affairs will receive the ballots from the panel and, on the basis of the input, decide whether to recommend a single nominee or none at all to the Board of Regents, through the president. The applications of nominees not selected will remain in the pool for two additional years.
7. The designation as Regents Professor may be made only by the Board of Regents.

8. The recipient is awarded a Regents Scholar medallion, a framed certificate, and receives a one-time stipend. The recipient will be recognized by the Board of Regents at the fall board meeting. The recipient will have the opportunity to participate as a member of the platform party during commencement ceremonies throughout the academic year.

9. The Regents Professor will provide a public lecture scheduled through the University Lecture Committee.

Cross Reference: None

Responsible for Implementation: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Contact for Revision: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Forms: None

Board Committee Assignment: Academic and Student Affairs