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# Memorandum

To: Vice-Presidents  
Deans and College Heads  
Directors of Research Centres and Institutes  
Faculty Council Chairs

From: Anne MacLennan, Chair, Senate Committee on Awards

Date: February 21, 2023

Subject: Call for nominations: Honorific Professorships

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I am writing on behalf of the Senate Committee on Awards to encourage you to submit nominations for Honorific Professorships and to promote the submission of nominations among your colleagues.

The **University Professorship** is a prestigious award conferred on a member of the faculty who is recognized by their peers for scholarship, teaching and particularly for participation in University life or contribution to the University as a community.

The University Professor will be a long-serving tenured faculty member who has demonstrated a commitment to participation in University life and/or contribution to the University as a community, as well as appropriate levels of scholarship and teaching success. Such achievement fulfills the following requirements:

- significant long-term contribution to the development or growth of the University or of its parts;
- significant participation in the collegium through mentorship, service and/or governance;
- sustained impact over time on the University's teaching mission; and
- recognition as a scholar.

Nominations may be made by all tenured faculty members, who shall provide a complete nomination file, including the nominee's c.v., a detailed letter of nomination explaining how the candidate's achievements conform to the general criteria, along with **three (3) letters of support** from those in a position to comment on the nominee's achievements and contributions.

The **Distinguished Research Professorship** is awarded to a member of the faculty who has made outstanding contributions to the University through research.



The Distinguished Research Professor will have demonstrated scholarly achievement by sustained publication or other recognized and accepted demonstrations of sustained authoritative contributions to scholarship. Such achievement fulfills the following requirements:

- includes sustained and continuing contributions to the field or fields of scholarship involved;
- the work is of excellent quality;
- the work has made a major impact on the discipline or field of study involved;
- the work is recognized within and appreciated beyond the University; and
- the nominee will have an international reputation in the field of study involved.

Nominations may be made by all tenured faculty members, who shall provide a complete nomination file, including the nominee's c.v., a detailed letter of nomination explaining how the candidate's achievements conform to the general criteria, along with **three (3) letters of support** from those in a position to comment on the nominee's achievements and contributions. **Two of these letters will be from individuals external to the University who must be at arm's length from the nominee.** The individuals providing external letters of support are asked to include in their letters a statement as to their relationship, if any, with the nominee.

#### **Nomination Information**

The [Senate Policy on Honorific Professorships](#) and the nomination forms are available on the [Senate Committee on Awards Committee webpage](#). While the principal criteria are set out in the Senate Policy, York strongly values diversity and equity within its community and encourages nominations of those who are under-represented in recent competitions.

Nominations for Honorific Professorships should be submitted by **Friday, March 17, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.** Nominations may be submitted via the [Distinguished Research Professor Mach Form](#) or the [University Professor Mach Form](#) available on the Awards webpage or using the [PDF Form](#) to the Committee Secretary at [awasser@yorku.ca](mailto:awasser@yorku.ca).

Please note that, as set out in the Policy, the Committee shall, in confidence, provide a complete copy of the file to the Dean of the nominee's home Faculty and invite the Dean to add a confidential letter of commentary on the nomination.

Nomination files of those not selected for Honorific Professorships will be held for reconsideration by the Awards Committee for three years, provided the nominee remains active at the University.