POLICY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENDOWED AND TERM CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS

University Policy No.: AC1100
Classification: Academic and Students
Approving Authority: Board on recommendation of Senate
Effective Date: February, 2011
Supersedes: January, 2008
Last Editorial Change: December 2020
Mandated Review: February, 2018

PURPOSE

1.00 This policy guides the establishment and designation of Endowed or Term Chairs and Professorships. The purpose of Chairs and Professorships are to advance the university's academic goals and objectives, to recognize and support faculty members of exceptional academic distinction, and to assist the university in its efforts to attract and/or retain outstanding scholars.

SCOPE

2.00 Government funding agency programs that provide research chair funding to individuals are not covered by this policy.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy:

3.00 **Chairs**: The Chair appointment is one of distinction, made to advance the academic programs of the University and to enhance teaching and research in an area within the university. The appointments may be for a fixed term.

There shall be two categories of Chairs:

3.01 **Endowed Chairs:** The establishment of an endowed Chair implies a continuing commitment to the position and the discipline. A Chair should bring distinction to an academic unit and a Chair-holder will be a distinguished scholar. The appointment will normally be full-time, at the rank of Professor, and may carry tenure. Chair-holders are expected to contribute to academic programs through research, teaching, and service. Endowed Chairs will be established through the generosity of benefactors. In the case where there are infrastructure costs associated with the establishment of a Chair position, a portion of the initial endowment may be used, with the approval of the donor(s), to cover such costs.

3.02 **Term Chairs:** Term Chairs may also be established from an expendable, as opposed to endowed, source of funds. The funding may come from internal University resources and/or from benefactors. Related terms of appointment are identical to those for Endowed Chairs. Appointments will be made for a limited term and may, after a review, be renewed by the university.

4.00 **Professorships:** The Professorship appointment is made to advance the academic programs of the university and to enhance teaching and research in an area within the university. The appointments may be for a fixed term.

There shall be two categories of Professorships:

4.01 **Endowed Professorships:** An Endowed Professorship is an appointment of distinction supported by supplemental funds provided by a benefactor. The purpose of an endowed Professorship is to provide supplemental funds for an existing position to allow the university to attract or retain outstanding people to such positions. The expendable income generated from an endowment may be used to contribute to the salary of the holder, provide support for their graduate students and/or research associates, and to supplement research or travel funds. Endowed Professorships are normally restricted to tenured academics holding the rank of Associate or Full Professor.

4.02 **Term Professorships:** A Term Professorship is an academic appointment where funds are provided by a benefactor to support a new or existing position; funding may also come from internal resources. These appointments may be made at any rank and, where appropriate, may be made under the grant tenure provisions of the Framework Agreement.

POLICY

5.00 The principal criterion governing the establishment of endowed or sponsored positions is that they advance the university's academic goals and objectives. A major goal of establishing these positions is to recognize and support faculty members of exceptional academic distinction. Endowed or Term Chairs and Professorships assist the university in its efforts to attract and/or retain outstanding scholars.

6.00 The holder of such a Chair or Professorship will receive and hold an academic appointment. They are expected to advance knowledge in a field of interest through teaching and research. University policies on academic appointments will be followed.

7.00 A Chair or Professorship may be named as requested by the donor(s), provided that the name is acceptable to the university.

8.00 The donor(s) may participate with the Vice-Presidents and Deans in establishing the terms of reference for the Endowed Chair or Professorship. In other regards, the donor(s) may advise only on guidelines for the use of funds, area of appointment and, in the case of fixed term appointments, length of appointment.

9.00 The funding for Endowed Chairs will normally be sufficient to provide for all of the costs of the Chair, without the requirement of funds from the university's operating budget.

10.00 The funding for Term Chairs must be of sufficient value to support the Chair for the length of the term.

11.00 The funding for Endowed Professorships will be used to supplement funds allocated from the university's operating budget.

12.00 The funding for Term Professorships must be of sufficient value to support the Professorship for the length of the term. For professors appointed pursuant to the grant tenure provisions of the Framework Agreement, funding must meet the criteria set out in that Agreement.

13.00 The Vice-President Academic and Provost, and the Vice-President External Relations must be consulted about the current level of funding required for any of the endowed positions referred to in this policy.

AUTHORITIES AND OFFICERS

i) Approving Authority: Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate
ii) Designated Executive Officer: Vice-President Academic and Provost
iii) Procedural Authority: Vice-President Academic and Provost
iv) Procedural Officer: Vice-President Academic and Provost

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

University Act

RELATED POLICIES AND DOCUMENTS

Framework Agreement

University of Victoria

PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENDOWED AND TERM CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS

Procedural Authority: Vice-President Academic and Provost
Procedural Officer: Vice-President Academic and Provost

Effective Date: May, 2008
Supersedes: January, 2000
Last Editorial Change: May, 2012

1.00 Following the *University Act*, Vice-Presidents or Deans will propose the establishment of an Endowed or Term Chair or Professorship to the Senate through the office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost.

2.00 Following Senate approval, the President will present the proposal to the Board of Governors for final approval.