

Iowa State University Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning Morrill Professor

Background

As a member of the CELT Advisory Board in 2007-2008, then Faculty Senate President-Elect Clark Ford suggested that CELT investigate the need for a prestigious teaching award at ISU similar in stature to University Professor. CELT formed a committee chaired by Kevin Saunders (then Coordinator for the Continuous Academic Program Improvement) to explore this idea, and has proposed the creation of a Teaching Academy, based on similar organizations at other institutions (such as Purdue University, Washington State University). The CELT committee's report requested that the Faculty Senate form a Task Force to examine the feasibility of creating a Teaching Academy at ISU. The CELT board approved the committee's report in October 2008.

Clark Ford, then Faculty Senate President, established the Faculty Senate Teaching Academy Task Force in November of 2008 to make recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding the feasibility, structure, policies, and procedures of establishing a teaching academy at ISU where membership would be an honor similar in stature to that of University Professor.

Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning Description and Rationale

The Iowa State University Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning will bring together the very best faculty educators from across campus to create a collective voice for teaching and learning at Iowa State. The title Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning was selected to reflect the importance the 1862 Morrill Act had in establishing Iowa State University as the first land grant institution. Land grant institutions were established to focus on the ideals that the university should teach liberal and practical subjects, and that higher education should be accessible to all. Membership in the Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning recognizes outstanding and scholarly work in teaching and learning in the undergraduate, graduate and/or Extension/outreach programs of the university. This recognition would be similar to existing ISU acknowledgements of outstanding achievement in research (Distinguished Professor) and as a change agent on campus (University Professor). The title given to members of the Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning will be Morrill Professor.

Under the auspices of the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, the Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning will work with the academic colleges, the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, and others to enrich the educational experiences of the entire Iowa State University community and the citizens of Iowa.

Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning Goals

The Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning provides all interested faculty, staff, and students the opportunity to talk, learn and work together on important and meaningful educational initiatives. Specifically members of the Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning will:

- Serve as advocates for the improvement of education through specific activities (e.g., co-sponsoring faculty forums, identifying and completing annual projects)
- Advise Faculty Senate and CELT on best practices for enhancing teaching and learning (e.g., recognition and reward for faculty and strategies for assessment of learning)
- Influence senior administration on policies and priorities related to teaching and learning
- Serve as a community of mentors to support other faculty engaged in the process of helping others learn

Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning Structure

Title

Morrill Professor

Membership

Faculty who are selected for membership in the ISU Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning become Fellows of the Academy. Similar to the Distinguished and University Professor titles, selection as a Morrill Professor will result in an increase in base pay and use of the title Morrill Professor while employed at Iowa State University.

Responsibilities of Members of the Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning

Individuals selected for this honor will help promote scholarly teaching and learning, and the scholarship of teaching and learning, and share their expertise across campus.

Selection Criteria

Nominees must hold the rank of professor and have served for at least five years on the Iowa State University faculty.

Selection into the Morrill Academy of Teaching and Learning will be based on the nominee's excellence in their work associated with undergraduate, graduate and/or Extension/outreach programs in the following areas:

- Scholarship of teaching and learning
- Effectiveness in facilitating learning
- Activities and recognitions
- Innovations
- Service
- Implementation of personal teaching philosophy and goals

From the nominees a maximum of five faculty members will be invited to join the Academy annually.

Procedures for Selection

Nominations should be made to the appropriate college awards committee. Each college may make one nomination, plus one additional nomination for each 100 faculty members. No nominations will be allowed for fractions of 100 faculty. Based on figures for tenured and tenure-track faculty members from Fall 2009, the following numbers of nominations are allowed:

College

- Agriculture and Life Sciences (3 nominations)
- Business (1 nomination)
- Design (1 nomination)
- Engineering (2 nominations)
- Human Sciences (2 nominations)
- Liberal Arts and Sciences (5 nominations)
- Library (1 nomination)
- Veterinary Medicine (2 nominations)
- Total Nominations = 17

The Morrill Professor Nomination and Review Committee is appointed by the Executive Vice President and Provost following procedures established by the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate Committee on Committees nominates faculty to the Executive Vice President and Provost for membership on the

Morrill Professor Nomination Review Committee. Faculty at the rank of Professor and/or Morrill Professor will be nominated for seven positions, one representing each college. The Executive Vice President and Provost will appoint three additional members. All members will serve three year, staggered terms. The Morrill Professor Nomination and Review Committee receives nominations from the colleges, meets at least once, and makes recommendations to the Faculty Senate Executive Board, which will meet in executive session to consider these recommendations. The Executive Board forwards recommendations to the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Selection committees may recommend that outstanding but unsuccessful award nominations be carried forward for one or, in exceptional cases, two years. Such nominations could be updated if the nominator so chooses, but this is not required. In such cases, the nominators should be notified. Not more than 25% of the unsuccessful nominations may be carried forward.

For the first nomination cycle, it is proposed that faculty on the CELT Advisory Board and CELT staff holding faculty rank serve as the Morrill Professor Nomination and Review Committee. For the second nomination cycle, it is proposed that the composition of the nomination and review committee include the Morrill Professors selected in the first cycle and the remainder of the committee be selected from the CELT Advisory Board and CELT staff holding faculty rank. The composition of the nomination and review committee will continue to be a combination of new and existing Morrill Professors and faculty from the CELT Advisory Board and CELT staff with faculty rank, until more than ½ of the committee are members of the Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning. At this time, members of the nomination and review committee will be selected for staggered three year terms as described above.

Taskforce Report Information

Resource needs

Membership in the Morrill Academy for Teaching and Learning would be an honor similar in stature to that of University Professor, and include an equal increase in base pay.

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Proposed Faculty Handbook Language (August 4, 2011)

Proposed changes are highlighted in yellow

6.3 Distinguished, University, and Morrill Professorships

Approved as amended by the Faculty Senate on 3/27/07

Approved by the Faculty Senate on 3/06/01.

The Distinguished Professorship, University Professorship and Morrill Professorship represent the highest academic recognitions at ISU and are bestowed on faculty who have demonstrated exemplary performance in their faculty activities. They represent the very best of our faculty. These three recognitions exist to reflect the fact that faculty have multiple responsibilities and that there are different ways for a faculty member to demonstrate excellence. The differences between the Distinguished Professorship, University Professorship and Morrill Professorship are based on the nature and focus of the faculty member's accomplishments. The Distinguished Professorship is bestowed on faculty members who have outstanding accomplishments in their research and/or creative activities that have had a significant impact on their fields of expertise. The University Professorship is bestowed on faculty members who have made outstanding contributions to ISU that have significantly changed and improved ISU. The Morrill Professorship is bestowed on faculty members who have demonstrated outstanding and sustained success in teaching and learning in undergraduate, graduate and/or Extension/outreach programs. These differences are described in detail in the sections below.

6.3.1 Distinguished Professor

A Distinguished Professorship is awarded for exemplary performance in research and/or creative activities as reflected by a national or international reputation in the nominee's discipline. A Distinguished Professor above all else must have accomplishments in research, and/or creative activities that have had a significant impact on, or improved the quality of, their discipline. In addition a Distinguished Professor must have demonstrated outstanding performance in at least one other area of faculty responsibility: (1) teaching and advising, (2) extension/professional practice, or (3) institutional service.

6.3.1.1 Eligibility

Nominees should hold the rank of professor and should have served for at least five years on the Iowa State University faculty.

6.3.1.2 Procedures for the Selection Process

The procedures for the nomination and selection process are provided on the Provost's web page under Faculty, Awards at <http://www.provost.iastate.edu/faculty/awards.html>.

The Distinguished Professor Nomination Review Committee is appointed by the Provost following procedures established by the Faculty Senate. The Distinguished Professor Nomination Review Committee receives nominations for Distinguished Professor from colleges and makes recommendations to the Provost.

6.3.2 University Professor

The University Professorship recognizes faculty members whose professional work has focused upon effecting positive, significant institutional change at Iowa State University. A University Professor must above all else have acted as a change agent by having made significant contributions that have improved the university. This professional work must go beyond excellence in teaching or research. In addition to the area of these contributions, a University Professor must have demonstrated outstanding performance in at least one other area of faculty responsibility: (1) research and/or creative activities, (2) teaching and advising, or (3) extension/professional practice.

6.3.2.1 Eligibility

Nominees should hold the rank of professor and should have served for at least ten years on the Iowa State University faculty prior to the beginning of the academic year in which they are nominated. The nominees must be individuals whose contributions extend well beyond a one-time impact. Having held an administrative position in and of itself is insufficient for consideration for this recognition. Faculty who have served as administrators (e.g. department chairs, deans, vice president, provost, or staff members in those offices) may be nominated only after they have been out of their administrative roles and functioning as faculty members for at least three years.

6.3.2.2 Procedures for the Selection Process

The procedures for the nomination and selection process are provided on the Provost's web page under Faculty, Awards at <http://www.provost.iastate.edu/faculty/awards.html>.

The University Professor Nomination and Review Committee is appointed by the Provost following procedures established by the Faculty Senate. The University Professor Nomination and Review Committee receives nominations from the colleges and makes recommendations to the Faculty Senate Executive Board. The Executive Board forwards recommendations to the Provost.

6.3.3 Morrill Professor

The Morrill Professorship recognizes faculty members whose professional work has demonstrated outstanding success in teaching and learning in undergraduate, graduate and/or Extension/outreach programs which is reflected by a national or international reputation in the nominee's discipline. A Morrill Professor must above all else have long-term, and sustained excellence in teaching and learning. This professional work must go beyond scholarly work in teaching and learning and show outstanding accomplishments that have enhanced learning outcomes in undergraduate, graduate and/or Extension/outreach programs. In addition to these contributions, a Morrill Professor must have demonstrated outstanding performance in at least one other area of faculty responsibility: (1) research and/or creative activities, (2) professional practice, or (3) institutional service.

6.3.3.1 Eligibility

Nominees must hold the rank of professor and have served for at least five years on the Iowa State University faculty.

6.3.3.2 Procedures for the Selection Process

The procedures for the nomination and selection process are provided on the Provost's web page under Faculty, Awards at <http://www.provost.iastate.edu/faculty/awards.html>.

The Morrill Professor Nomination and Review Committee is appointed by the Provost following procedures established by the Faculty Senate. The Morrill Professor Nomination and Review Committee receives nominations from the colleges and makes recommendations to the Faculty Senate Executive Board. The Executive Board forwards recommendations to the Provost.