



Distinguished Faculty Fellowships

Deans are invited to nominate members of their faculty for Distinguished Faculty Fellowships. These Fellowships have been created to recognize and provide support for members of the faculty whose continuing attainments and current activities in scholarship, research, and/or in the fine and performing arts are nationally distinguished. The Fellowships have a dual purpose: to recognize past and continuing distinguished achievements and to support current scholarly or creative activity of an exceptional character.

In addition to the honor and recognition associated with these Fellowships, each Fellow will receive an award of \$10,000 (per year for up to two years if funds are available) to be used for support of their scholarly endeavors. (The permissible uses of the \$10,000 are broadly defined within University guidelines.)

Up to four Fellowships will be available next year: up to two Charles Gershenson Fellowships, which are part of the benefaction to the University by the late Charles Gershenson, who formerly served on the Board of Governors, and up to two Board of Governors Fellowship derived from revenues specifically available to the Board. The term of each Fellowship is two years, and the \$10,000 award will be renewed in the second year of the Fellowship if funds continue to be available.

Please note funds must be expended by the end of the fiscal year following the second year of funding or will be subject to recapture.

Deans are invited to submit nominations for these Fellowships up to the number specified below for the respective schools and colleges:

- Liberal Arts and Sciences: 8
- School of Medicine: 4
- Business, Education, Engineering, Fine/Performing/Communication Arts, Law, Nursing, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and Social Work: 2 each

Each dean should work with an appropriate faculty committee in their school or college to identify possible nominees and to prepare the nominating materials. Fellowship nominations should usually occur through the identification of candidates by academic administrators, the faculty committee, and leading scholars. The Fellowships are not intended to be awarded through a process of application or self-nomination.

Because of the wide variation in disciplines and in the character of the credentials of nationally prominent scholars, there is no standard format for nominations. However, the dean and the faculty advisory committee should submit at least the following:

- A detailed assessment of the nominee's credentials, including mention of the involvement of students in scholarly, research, or arts production,
- A current professional record,
- A draft citation for the award ceremony booklet of approximately 250 words, avoiding the



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use of direct quotes from letters or reviewers.

- A description of the scholarly or creative activity that would be supported, and
- Persuasive evidence from sources outside the University that the nominee is nationally distinguished in their field. (Such evidence might vary widely, but election to highly selective scholarly academies, selection for eminent prizes in the field, reviews of a nominee's contributions in the discipline's most prominent journals, and reviews of their work by leading figures in the field constitute examples.)

External reviews should ordinarily be those recently obtained by the University or another institution or agency for purposes other than the Distinguished Fellowship nomination—**we do not encourage seeking external reviews for this process alone** unless there are extraordinary circumstances that require that colleagues elsewhere be asked to undertake this substantial responsibility. **Recommendation letters from promotion and/or tenure applications should not be used.**

The Selection Advisory Committee will be made up primarily of the current Distinguished Faculty Fellows. **Review committees are composed of faculty from diverse disciplines. Therefore, please write for highly educated professionals outside your discipline. Successful applications are crafted specifically to the award, and include subheadings aligned with the rubric criteria.**

[Upload each nomination for the Fellowships](#) as a bookmarked PDF no later than **January 5**. Final selections will be made in spring so that Distinguished Faculty Fellows may use their awards for support of scholarly activity beginning July 1. Questions about the process may be directed to the [Office of Faculty Affairs and Development](#).

c: Kimberly Andrews Espy, President

Distinguished Faculty Fellowship Selection Rubric

The purpose of this rubric is to support a standardized DFF selection process.

Construct and Evidence	1	2	3	4	Score
<p>1. Track record of distinguished contributions to the field (60%) Evidence obtained from: Professional Record; Dean's/faculty committee's statements; external letters</p>	<i>No evidence of track record/readiness/preparation to undertake DFF activities</i>	<i>Some evidence of track record of distinguished contributions but unclear how this work prepares the candidate for the proposed activities</i>	<i>Evidence of a track record of distinguished contributions with some explanation for how prior work has prepared the candidate to engage in the proposed activities.</i>	<i>Evidence of a track record of distinguished contributions with strong evidence for how prior work has prepared the candidate to engage in the proposed activities</i>	
<p>2. DFF as a support for candidate's sustained development and productivity (25%) Evidence obtained from: Dean's/faculty committee's statements; external letters</p>	<i>No evidence about the extent to which the DFF award will enable continued development and productivity</i>	<i>Some evidence about the extent to which the DFF award will enable continued development and productivity</i>	<i>Evidence about the extent to which the DFF award will enable continued development and productivity with some specific information or examples provided</i>	<i>Strong evidence about the extent to which the DFF award will enable continued development and productivity with specific information or examples as to how the activities link with unit promotion factors</i>	
<p>3. DFF Project/Activity (10%) Evidence obtained from: Dean's/faculty committee's statements; external letters</p>	<i>No research/creative project mentioned.</i>	<i>DFF project ideas are presented but are not sufficiently clear to determine if the activities are feasible or sufficiently rigorous to justify this award</i>	<i>DFF project ideas are presented with some clarity, but questions remain about feasibility and/or rigor</i>	<i>DFF project is presented with clarity, is feasible, and sufficiently rigorous</i>	
<p>4. Benefit to Students/Community (5%) Evidence obtained from: Candidate's proposal; Dean's/faculty committee's statements; external letters</p>	<i>No evidence presented as to how the nominee's work has benefitted or will benefit students or local/global community</i>	<i>Some evidence of the benefit to students, local/global community</i>	<i>Evidence of benefit to students, local/global community including limited specific information about benefits</i>	<i>Strong evidence of benefit to students, local/global community, including examples of specific or concrete benefits</i>	
Weighted Sum					