




TO: Academic Deans

CC: Cyril Clarke, Executive Vice President and Provost
Current UDPs and ADPs

FROM: Ron Fricker, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs 

DATE: October 9, 2023

SUBJECT: **Call for Nominations for Alumni Distinguished Professor**

1. **Purpose.** This is an invitation to nominate faculty members for appointment to the Alumni Distinguished Professor (ADP) rank. The Provost may recognize up to three faculty members with appointment to the ADP rank this year. Selectees will be recommended for approval at the Board of Visitors meeting in April 2024.

2. **Background.** The Faculty Handbook describes Alumni Distinguished Professors as follows:

The Alumni Distinguished Professorship (ADP) is a preeminent faculty appointment, reserved by the Board of Visitors for recognition of faculty members who demonstrate extraordinary accomplishments and academic citizenship through substantive scholarly contributions across all three of Virginia Tech's mission areas of teaching, research, creative activity, and engagement.

Those who already hold a named professorship or chaired position at Virginia Tech are eligible for a concurrent appointment as ADP, if selected. The financial benefits to selected ADPs include a salary supplement, which varies depending on current salary, and a modest state-funded operating account. New ADP appointments are for a ten-year period and may be renewed.

Section 3.2.2 of the Faculty Handbook provides further detail on the selection processes, privileges, and responsibilities of ADPs.

3. **Discussion.** This opportunity to recognize the achievements of distinguished faculty members does not come often and so I encourage you to think carefully about your nomination(s). While there is no limit on the number of nominations per college, my recommendation is that each college try to nominate just one faculty member for this exceptional honor and certainly no more than two.

Note that the development of a competitive dossier is a time-consuming process. I thus suggest that departmental and college honorifics or executive committees make their initial selection by reviewing candidate vitas and only develop full dossiers for the final nominee(s). Review and approval of the final nomination(s) by the college honorifics committee and dean are expected and required.

Dossier formatting guidelines are attached to this memo. The dossier should not exceed 30 pages, excluding the curriculum vitae. Only an electronic copy of the nomination dossier needs to be

submitted. This call for nominations, the dossier guidelines, and the cover page template may all be found on the provost's website [here](#).

4. **Submission Deadlines.** Please submit the names of candidates coming forward as nominees for ADP to Allison Craft (crafta@vt.edu) by **November 30, 2023**. Final dossiers are due **January 5, 2024**. Please submit the entire document as a single .pdf file in an email attachment to Allison Craft (crafta@vt.edu).

Attachments: ADP Dossier Guidelines
 ADP Cover Page Template