*DRAFT*

*Professor of the Practice*

There are many roles and opportunities for individuals with distinguished careers outside of the university environment to play in furthering the educational and research goals of the academy. The technical and life experience of these individuals can enrich the experience of our students and offer opportunities to the research mission. These individuals often offer their services to a college or department without the expectation or desire for financial compensation from the institutional budget. There are many examples of such individuals. People currently or previously engaged in industry, foundations, the government, or other educational institutions have approached various departments and colleges and offered their experience and service in the training of students through mentoring, formal course offerings, or participation in research activities. At present there are no professorial titles available to recognize these people, their distinguished careers, and active engagement in the life of the university. There are a variety of honorific titles which are available to individuals based on their role in the university. These titles are granted after approval through appropriate faculty governance bodies. The title of adjunct professor is applied to those individuals from a non-instructional institution and persons whose professional career is primarily outside of University instruction. Adjunct faculty must be performing primarily instructional activities and are compensated through a paid appointment. The research professor titles are limited, in nearly all cases, to academic staff members whose funding is 50% or more from non-state GPR sources.

Most of our peer institutions have utilized the title *Professor of the Practice* to recognize these people and their participation in the life of the unit. The title recognizes their status as a peer in the community, particularly when interacting with students. Given the industrial or governmental background of some individuals, they can offer assistance when navigating funding agencies and industrial concerns. An appropriate title from the university allows their representation of our interests as a member of our community. At present, the lack of such a title places many of the activities within the college at a competitive disadvantage when attracting such individuals to our efforts and in allowing engaged individuals to be identified a partner with the university. A professorial title associated with this type of engagement, i.e. service without financial compensation, is not represented within the range of available honorific titles. We therefore propose to have such a title established through the attached motion to the Faculty Senate after review and approval by the APC of the sponsoring units, the University Committee, and the Physical Sciences Divisional Committee.

Motion:

The Academic Planning Council of the College of Engineering moves that the Faculty Senate endorse the honorific title of ***Professor of the Practice*** to be used in addition to the regular budgeted titles of

**Adjunct professor**

**Associate research professor**

**Research professor.**

The honorific working title, ***Professor of the Practice***, could be awarded to outstanding members of the engineering or scientific communities with terminal graduate degrees in engineering or the sciences. This title would be limited to those members of the engineering community actively engaged in the educational or research mission of a college without GPR financial compensation. These titles are awarded only to truly meritorious individuals and require the positive recommendation of the executive committee of the department in which the staff member is employed and the relevant academic planning council (APC). The basis for awarding the ***Professor of the Practice*** title shall be the criteria and documentation identified below.

A department or APC recommendation is forwarded to the dean of the school or college. Upon approval by the dean, the recommendation is forwarded to a committee appointed by the University Committee consisting of eight faculty members, two from each faculty division. This committee reviews the dossier to determine whether it meets the criteria for bestowing the title. If the committee approves the dossier, it recommends that the provost grant the proposed working title.

**Criteria and Documentation for Bestowing the *Professor of the Practice* Title**

Criteria:

(1) excellent research that makes an original contribution to knowledge and culture; (2) substantial productivity as compared to national or international peers; (3) significant recognition outside the university and the state; (4) high expectation of continued excellence and productivity.

Documentation includes (but is not limited to):

(1) scholarly books, monographs, chapters, bulletins, media, videotapes, computer programs, technical reports, etc., and articles published or accepted for publication in scholarly or professional journals; (2) outreach publications and exemplary materials; (3) reviews and other evaluations of the candidate's publications and manuscripts, and citation of the work; (4) research awards, grants, and proposals; (5) evaluations by authorities, especially those from other major universities, in the candidate's field of specialization; (6) papers read at professional meetings, invited lectures at other universities and learned societies, invitations to participate in professional meetings, editorial positions with major professional journals, testimony before

governmental committees, and professional honors, awards and consultations; (7) patents or evidence of intellectual property.