2017 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Distinguished University Professor (DUP)

Policy Link:

http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/AdminAcad/AdminProcedures/DistinguishedUniversityProfessor.pdf

Eligibility:

Are Professors Emeriti eligible for nomination?

- Professors Emeriti are not eligible for nomination, even if they have a post retirement appointment of some sort. [See Policy Item 1.3]

How many titles are available and approximately how many will be conferred for the 2017/18 year?

The number of Distinguished University Professors shall be restricted to no more than 2% of all full-time members of faculty, including tenure-stream, teaching stream, CAWAR and Special (with the latter stream counted using a weighting factor of 0.2). The maximum number of positions will be re-evaluated every three years. No more than five new titles will be conferred in any given year. [See Policy Item 1.5.a]

- This currently equates to 22 possible titles. There are currently 20 active DUPs.
- The list of Distinguished University Professors can be found at http://www.mcmaster.ca/univsec/reports_lists/DistUnivProf.pdf

University Scholar (US)


Eligibility:

As per policy, this award is intended to help to elevate the stature of faculty members in mid-career, defined as colleagues within 5 years of promotion to Associate Professor or 15 years of the completion of their PhD. The selection committee however will be allowed to exercise some discretion in the application of this condition. [See Policy Item 1.3, paragraph 2]

Is an individual eligible for consideration in the following circumstances?

- The individual was promoted to full Professor early in their career.
Yes. Explanation should be provided in the nomination letter.

• The individual is just outside the time limits listed in the policy.
  o Exceptions may be made but need to be addressed and rationale provided by the Dean for the exception in the covering letter.

• The individual is clinical and does not have a PhD.
  o Exceptions may be made but need to be addressed and rationale provided by the Dean for the exception in the covering letter.

• The individual received a PhD more than 15 years ago but is still an Associate Professor, or they are a full professor but completed their PhD within the past 15 years.
  o The individual does not have to fulfil both criteria. Fulfillment of either criterion makes an individual eligible.
  o Specifically for the 2017/18 process:
    ▪ EITHER PhD awarded in or after 2003 OR became an Associate Professor in or after 2013.

Nomination Letters:

• Who can sign the nomination letters? Are external letters of nomination needed?
  o As per policy [Item 2.1.c], the initial nomination is ONE letter but signed by FOUR individuals, at least TWO of whom must be McMaster Professors (self-nomination is not acceptable). The nomination letter could be signed by 4 internal people.
  o If the nomination is moved to the second phase, then external letters need to be secured [Item 2.1.d]

Research Award:

*Each University Scholar will be supported with a modest research award provided jointly by the Provost and the Faculty Dean. [Item 1.3, paragraph 3]*

• How much is the award and what is the process for receiving funds?
  o The current award is $15,000 each year of the award, for a total of $60,000.
  o 50% from the Provost and 50% from the Faculty Dean. The Provost’s office will transfer the funds owed to the Faculties and they will set up and load the research accounts for individual faculty.

How many US positions are available?

*The number of University Scholars shall be restricted to no more than 2% of all full-time members of faculty, including tenure-stream, teaching-stream, CAWAR and Special (with the latter stream counted using a weighting factor of 0.2). The maximum number of positions will be re-evaluated every three years. They will be allocated amongst the Faculties of the university; i.e. the number of University Scholars will be restricted to 2% of the complement of each Faculty as determined above. [Item 1.5]*
The current allotment for the 2017/18 year and projected allotment (2018/19 and 2019/20) is as follows:

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* The number available in the outer years could be adjusted if scholars do not complete their terms and based on periodic recalculation of faculty complement.