

Unendowed Collegiate Professorships at the University of Michigan: Procedures Effective 7/1/2024

Revised for accessibility, clarity in August 2026

General information:

The Unendowed Collegiate Professorship or UCP is a unit-funded honorific held by the Office of the Provost that may be bestowed upon active, tenure-track faculty as a mechanism to support recruitment or retention efforts, or to reward excellence in one's field. Approval to offer this honorific to non-tenure track faculty requires the prior approval of the provost. UCPs are named for former, retired, or deceased prominent U-M faculty members with a 5-year renewable term. Holders of a UCP receive unit-provided annual support of \$3,000-\$5,000, with values set at the discretion of the unit.

The criteria to hold a UCP includes current employment at the University of Michigan (emeritus/emerita may retain a UCP title but not the stipend) and having credentials that meet the unit-specific criteria for an initial appointment or renewal. Multiple faculty members may not hold a UCP with the same honoree name.

The processes for the selection, allocation, naming, appointment, and renewal of the UCP are described below. Note that approval from the Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs is required prior to seeking any Regental action regarding UCPs.

Selection

- The school/college or S/C develops/utilizes internal criteria to select faculty to hold a UCP.

Allocation

- If a S/C does not hold any open UCPs, they submit a request to the Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs at vps.academic.faculty.affairs@umich.edu for a new UCP allocation for a designated faculty member that includes a brief justification for the selection.
 - The provost's office then notifies the S/C of the outcome of the review of this request and directs the S/C to prepare a Regents Communication or RC to establish the UCP (the first of two RCs).

OR

- If a S/C holds one or more open UCPs, it submits a request to the Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs to rename or award it as named to a designated faculty member that includes a brief justification.
 - The provost's office then notifies the S/C of the outcome of the review of this request and directs the S/C to prepare a Regents Communication (the first of two RCs) to rename the UCP, if applicable. (If retaining the original UCP name, this first RC is not required.)

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Naming & Appointment

- If applicable (see Allocation above), the S/C submits a Regents Communication to Academic Human Resources, triggering the vetting process of both the individual for whom the UCP is named and the faculty member who will receive the honorific.
- When Regental approval is received, the S/C submits a separate, second Regents communication to appoint the faculty member to the UCP.

Renewal

- The S/C develops and applies its criteria to review a faculty member for renewal of the UCP.
- The S/C submits a Regents Communication to renew the UCP to Academic Human Resources, triggering the vetting process of the individual for whom the UCP is named and the faculty member who will receive the honorific.

UCPs will be relinquished in certain circumstances, including but not limited to the following:

- A faculty member with a UCP transfers off the tenure track either by
 - leaving U-M to take another position **or**
 - taking a different appointment within the university.
- The term of a faculty member's UCP expires and the UCP is not renewed.
- A faculty member passes away.

UCPs relinquished by faculty will remain in the units for future allocations.

UCPs and Distinguished University Professorships (or DUPs):

Effective 7/1/2024, faculty members who hold a UCP and then receive a DUP will relinquish the UCP at the time the DUP is rewarded. Faculty who received both a DUP and a UCP prior to 7/1/2024 are exempt from this policy.

Tracking:

The Office of the Provost tracks the current UCP holders and unallocated UCPs held by each S/C. The provost's office will forward this list to each S/C annually and will regularly request updates.

Regents Communications examples and information:

[Appointment to any type of professorship](#)

[Naming an Existing Unendowed Collegiate Professorship](#)

[Change in name of any type of professorship](#)

See the [Regents Communications Manual](#) for procedural details and additional sample RCs.

Please forward questions regarding UCPs to Academic and Faculty Affairs, Office of the Provost at yps.academic.faculty.affairs@umich.edu.