



Louisiana State University System

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**F. King Alexander, President**

**GUIDELINES FOR AWARDING A BOYD PROFESSORSHIP**

The Boyd Professorship, established by the LSU Board of Supervisors in 1953, is the most distinguished and highest professorial rank awarded by the University. Named in honor of brothers Thomas and David Boyd, early presidents and faculty members of LSU, the Boyd Professorship recognizes faculty who bring honor and prestige to LSU through their national and international recognition for outstanding achievements.

**I. Eligibility for Boyd Professorship**

The Bylaws and Regulations of the LSU Board of Supervisors establish the fundamental eligibility criteria for the Boyd Professorship in Section 2-14(a) as:

- 4 A faculty member on any campus of LSU who has attained both national and international distinction for outstanding research, scholarship, teaching, or other creative achievement; and
  
- 4 No faculty member holding an administrative position of the rank of director or above shall be eligible for nomination.

## **II. Nomination of a Boyd Professor**

A faculty member on any campus of LSU who has attained national and international distinction while a member of the LSU faculty may be nominated for appointment as a Boyd Professor. Although there is no required minimum number of years of service by the nominee to LSU, their service should be of sufficient length to establish that the significant work qualifying the person for nomination was conducted at LSU. Achieving this level of distinction may be established in various ways, as described more fully below in Section III.

The Boyd Professorship process shall be confidential throughout all phases. In no instance shall a nominee be informed or otherwise made aware of the nomination.

Nominations for a Boyd Professorship shall originate with the academic dean or director of the school in which a nominee holds professorial status. In cases where the nominee holds a split appointment, both deans/directors must jointly submit the nomination. The nomination shall be routed for review and endorsement at all appropriate academic levels on each campus and then transmitted to the LSU Boyd Professorship Review Committee through the Vice President for Academic Affairs in the Office of the President.

In no instance shall the Boyd Professorship be used as a mechanism for retention.

Materials submitted by a campus, along with the letters of nomination, shall include the nominee's curriculum vita, one copy of each of the ten most significant publications generated while at LSU, and any other pertinent supporting information. In addition, the campus shall provide the names of at least thirty (30) qualified and distinguished national and international external reviewers in the nominee's field of expertise, along with complete contact information for each of these reviewers.

## **III. Criteria for Judging Qualifications of Faculty Nominated for Boyd Professorships**

National and international distinction for outstanding scholarly work conducted while the nominee has been affiliated with LSU may be established through various criteria, including but not limited to:

- A. Recognition by distinguished colleagues of the nominee's competence, impact on the discipline and influence on related fields by productive scholarship or research, as indicated by:
  - A Publications of reports, articles, reviews, critiques, etc., in the most respected refereed journals;
  - A Publications of monographs, books, or chapters of books or monographs, etc., at the research level;
  - A Frequent citing by others;

- 6 Editorship or membership on boards of editors of leading journals, symposia, conference reports, etc.;
- 6 Invited participation in professional symposia, conferences or congresses;
- 6 Creation of inventions and the acquisition of patents, production rights and control of methods of production or manufacture;
- 6 The production of works of art or music, which are acclaimed by recognized critics and connoisseurs.

**B. 6 Status as an outstanding teacher, as indicated by:**

- 6 The esteem and respect of students and faculty associates;
- 6 The quality of former/current students and their impact on the nominee's field;
- 6 Invitations to present seminars, lectures or workshops at other educational and research institutions.

**C. 6 Recognition of professional activities, as indicated by:**

- 6 Offices held in learned societies;
- 6 Grants, awards, prizes and other honors from professional or governmental organizations and foundations;
- 6 Artistic exhibitions, performances, and other creative works.

**D. 6 Service to society and government, as indicated by:**

- 6 Important positions in public service agencies;
- 6 Activities as an expert consultant to business, industry, agriculture, or government;
- 6 Membership on important government advisory boards or panels.

#### **IV. Review and Evaluation of Boyd Professor Nominations**

The Boyd Professor Review Committee will review and evaluate all nominations for a Boyd Professorship. During its review, the Committee may choose to seek the confidential objective opinion of relevant authorities and experts in the nominee's field of study regarding the professional stature of the nominee and the suitability of appointment to this distinguished rank.

The Boyd Professor Review Committee may elect to decline, defer, or recommend the nomination to the President and the Board.

All actions of the Boyd Professor Review Committee shall remain confidential. Updates on the status of nominations shall not normally be provided.

## **V. Awarding of a Boyd Professorship and Related Benefits**

The LSU Board of Supervisors may vote to award the nominee the distinguished rank of Boyd Professor upon the recommendation of the Boyd Professor Review Committee, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President.

By unanimous vote on May 25, 1990, the LSU Board of Supervisors expressed its intent that each Boyd Professor should receive a permanent salary adjustment and an annual stipend to support research and scholarly activity, paid from institutional funds of the nominating campus.

The required salary adjustment should ensure that each Boyd Professor receives compensation at a level no less than the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of full professors in like disciplines at comparable public institutions of higher education in the southeastern region of the United States. This salary adjustment preferably should become effective as soon as possible following the award, but may be phased in over several years if the campus budgetary impact would otherwise be too significant in a single year. The campus should make every ongoing effort to maintain the salary of the Boyd Professor at the recommended level over time.

The annual research stipend for each Boyd Professor should be set at a level commensurate with the highest research or endowed chair stipend awarded on that particular campus. Since the Boyd Professorship is a lifetime award, retired Boyd Professors who are still active in research at LSU should continue to receive an annual stipend, albeit at a reduced rate as determined by appropriate campus academic officers.

The chief executive or chief academic officer of each campus should ensure uniformity and consistency in the amount of research stipends and in the mechanism for salary adjustments for all Boyd Professors on that particular campus.

## **VI. Composition of the Boyd Professor Review Committee**

The Boyd Professorship Review Committee shall be comprised of the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the LSU system, who shall serve as chair, along with two emeriti members and three faculty members appointed by the President from throughout the campuses of LSU.