**College of Liberal Arts & Sciences**

**Criteria for promotion of Research Professors**

**School of Earth and Space Exploration**

Approved by the dean on December 1, 2016

Approved by the unit committee on November 29, 2016

Approved by the faculty assembly of the school on November 29, 2016

**Promotion of Fixed-Term Faculty: Research Professors**

Research Professors are appointed to advance the research mission of the School of Earth and Space Exploration (SESE) through their scholarly activities. Promotion of non-tenure eligible faculty appointments is warranted only when achievements are tangibly demonstrated. Thus, promotion is based neither on promise nor longevity, but on demonstrated excellence.

**Promotion to Associate Research Professor**

Candidates seeking promotion to Associate Research Professor should have five years in rank at ASU and may count the year of application toward this eligibility requirement. A case for promotion should demonstrate how the candidate has significantly and substantially enhanced the mission of the unit, consistent with the emphases of their workload distribution.

A candidate for promotion to Associate Research Professor must demonstrate that they have been conducting original, impactful research at ASU. This work should be published in refereed journals and enrich the relevant scientific field. Evidence of the quality of research may also be measured by indicators such as the importance, innovation, and relevance of the work as suggested by the quality of the journals; citation metrics; or longevity of influence; and information in the required personal statement of the candidate.

In addition to the required criteria outlined in the preceding paragraph, candidates for promotion to Associate Research Professor may also advance the mission of the school through other important activities. Excellence in these activities also should be taken into consideration in evaluating suitability for promotion. The strongest cases will include evidence from among the following:

1. The development of expertise and/or execution of responsibilities in area(s) of assignment, consistent with the job description. Examples may include effective management of facilities and centers; successful technology development and deployment; superior efforts at outreach of SESE research activities to national, regional, or local stakeholders; and similar specialized efforts.
2. Documentation of effective mentorship, laboratory instruction, or supervision of undergraduates, graduate students, or employees whose work is essential to the research enterprise.
3. For appointments that include a teaching obligation, candidates **must** demonstrate teaching activities that advance the mission of SESE, such as developing short courses to teach specific methods or techniques to students at ASU or improving courses in SESE’s curriculum; peer teaching evaluations that indicate effective teaching; student evaluations that are consistently at or above unit norms. Cases that lack peer teaching evaluations will not be considered.

**Promotion to (full) Research Professor**

Candidates seeking promotion to Research Professor should have seven years in rank at ASU and may count the year of application toward this eligibility requirement. A case for promotion should demonstrate how the candidate’s *leadership* has enhanced the mission of the unit in a substantial way.

A candidate for promotion to (full) Research Professor must provide evidence of research achievement while at ASU since last promotion (or appointment in rank) in all of the following areas: a) Substantial body of original research that defines and/or significantly enriches one or more areas of the relevant sciences; b) Publications in high-quality, refereed, professional journals; c) Recognition as a major influence in one or more areas of research; such recognition includes giving invited presentations at conferences and universities of high stature, professional awards, and election to positions in national and international professional societies; d) External grant support from major peer-reviewed funding agencies, with the candidate serving as Principal Investigator. Funding should be at a level adequate to support the candidate’s research program. Evidence of the quality of research may also be measured by indicators such as the importance, innovation, and relevance of the work as suggested by the quality of the journals; citation metrics; or longevity of influence; and information in the required personal statement of the candidate.

In addition to the required criteria outlined in the preceding paragraph, candidates for promotion to (full) Research Professor may also advance the mission of the school through ***leadership*** in other important activities. Excellence in these activities also should be taken into consideration in evaluating suitability for promotion. The strongest cases will include evidence from among the following:

1. Effective management of facilities and centers; successful technology development and deployment; superior efforts at outreach of SESE research activities to national, regional, or local stakeholders; and similar specialized efforts.
2. Sustained, demonstrable effective mentorship, laboratory instruction, and supervision of undergraduates, graduate students, or employees whose work is essential to the research enterprise.
3. For appointments that include a teaching obligation, candidates **must** demonstrate teaching activities that advance the mission of SESE, such as developing short courses to teach specific methods or techniques to students at ASU or improving courses in SESE’s curriculum; peer teaching evaluations that indicate effective teaching; student evaluations that are consistently at or above unit norms. Cases that lack peer teaching evaluations will not be considered.

**Procedure for Promotion of Research Professors**

The School of Earth and Space Exploration will follow procedures for promotion of Research Professors that are described in the **Process Guide for Fixed-term Faculty Promotion** found on the provost’s website at <https://provost.asu.edu/academic-personnel/personnel-processes>. The Personnel Committee and the Director will collect three to five supplementary, confidential evaluation letters from knowledgeable peers. These external letters should provide further evidence of the quality of activity of the candidate and promise for continued excellence.