

Graduate Faculty Appointment and Reappointment Criteria and Standards

Revised by vote of the Finance Department Graduate Faculty, August 22, 2014

Department: Finance
College: Business
Department Chair: Lee Colquitt
Date Approved by Faculty: August 22, 2014

Professional Affiliate

Level 0: The faculty member may teach at the 6000/7000 level, but is not eligible to serve on thesis or dissertation committees or teach at the 8000 level. To receive graduate credit, a doctoral student enrolled in a course taught by a Professional Affiliate must secure prior approval from both the Finance Department's graduate faculty and the Dean of the Graduate School.

For the initial appointment, the candidate must have obtained either:

1. A Master's degree recognized by the department as directly applicable to the professional field, and evidence of exceptional professional experience (as allowed by SAC Criteria for Accreditation, Section 4.8.2.3) that is directly relevant and applicable to the professional program in which the individual will be teaching. This can be exhibited by professional experience at the rank of chief executive officer and/or owner, or recognized expertise and professional experience in the relevant field of no less than eight years; or
2. A terminal degree (e.g., Ph.D., JD, MD) recognized by the department as directly applicable to the professional program.

Credentials of all candidates are to be reviewed in advance by a departmental committee prior to any course assignment.

For reappointment as a professional affiliate, the candidate must have contributed to the graduate program as demonstrated by either:

1. Maintaining a level of teaching quality commensurate with departmental peers in graduate courses, as evidenced by relevant student and/or peer teaching evaluations; or
2. Maintaining a current knowledge of the field as demonstrated through active participation in professional associations, reaffirmation of professional licensure or certification, continuing education, continued professional practice, or other indicators as approved by the Finance Department's graduate faculty.

Graduate Faculty Levels 1 and 2

Level 1: The faculty member may teach at the 6000/7000 level, and is eligible to serve on or chair Master's advisory committees and Ph.D. qualifying paper committees, and may serve as a member of Ph.D. dissertation committees. Graduate Level 2 status must be met in order to teach courses in the Ph.D. program or to chair Ph.D. dissertation committees.

For the initial appointment, the candidate must have obtained both

1. A terminal degree recognized by the department, and
2. An appointment at the rank of assistant professor or above.

In addition, a candidate whose terminal degree was awarded more than five years prior must meet the following requirements:

- a. The candidate shall have a record of scholarly publication. This will be satisfied typically by publication of at least three full-length research articles in reputable refereed journals or scholarly books (reputable are those journals or books identified as such by faculty in the Finance Department). The research in these articles should reflect methodology appropriate to the candidate's field. The publication of a book or research monograph may satisfy this requirement if it makes a scholarly contribution to the author's field of specialization. Such publications must clearly demonstrate the author's research competence. In those areas where publication is not customarily the end result of scholarly activity, evidence of comparable achievement suitable for establishing professional standing must be presented; and
- b. The candidate should demonstrate other significant professional scholarly commitment. This involves any one, or combination of such activities as: presenting papers before learned and professional organizations; writing book reviews, scientific and industrial reports, short notes, popular articles, or similar materials; rendering consulting service which provides evidence of the scholar's professional standing and competence in his/her special field; participating in the activities of appropriate scholarly professional organizations by holding office or serving in other responsible capacities; performing significant administrative duties connected with the graduate program of a department or the university; or attainment of extramural support that is evidence of professional standing.

For reappointment as a Level 1 faculty member, the candidate must have prior service at either Level 1 or Level 2, and must have merited participation in the graduate program as demonstrated by either:

1. Maintaining a level of teaching quality commensurate with departmental peers in graduate courses as evidenced by relevant student and/or peer teaching evaluations; or
2. Contributing as a member of Master's or Ph.D. advisory committees or qualifying paper committees; or
3. Publishing at least three full-length research articles in reputable refereed journals or scholarly books (reputable are those journals or books identified as such by faculty in the Finance Department) during the previous appointment period.

Level 2: The faculty member is eligible for all duties described under Level 1. Additionally, the faculty member is eligible to teach 8000 level courses and chair Ph.D. dissertation committees.

For the initial appointment, the candidate must have demonstrated all competencies described for Level I. In addition, a candidate whose terminal degree was awarded more than five years prior must also satisfy the following:

1. The candidate should have three years of experience participating regularly in the graduate program of the candidate's department at Auburn or another institution of higher education, or demonstrated in some other way her/his ability to direct graduate level research; and
2. The candidate must have at least five full-length research articles in reputable refereed journals or scholarly books (reputable are those journals or books identified as such by faculty in the Finance Department) in the past seven years.

In rare cases, when the candidate has established a significant scholarly record and demonstrated in some other outstanding way her/his ability to direct doctoral students, the Graduate Dean may approve a reduction in the requirements of years of experience. Such strongly justified, written requests must be supported by a majority vote of the Finance Department's Level 2 faculty.

For reappointment as a Level 2 faculty member, the candidate must have prior service at Level 2, and must have contributed to the graduate program as demonstrated by:

1. Maintaining a level of teaching quality commensurate with departmental peers in graduate courses as evidenced by relevant student and/or peer teaching evaluations or contributing as a member of Master's or Ph.D. advisory committees or qualifying paper committees; and
2. Publishing at least five full-length research articles in reputable refereed journals or scholarly books (reputable are those journals or books identified as such by faculty in the Finance Department) during the previous appointment period.

For either initial appointment or reappointment at Level 2, a faculty member believing other evidence of competency is appropriate can request the Department Chair establish a committee comprised of Level 2 faculty and the Associate Dean to weigh the acceptability of this evidence.

Terms of Appointments

For Level 0, 1, or 2, the term of appointment is 7 years.

A faculty member appointed to Level 1 may be nominated for Level 2 status at any time. Faculty members serving at Level 2 can be nominated for reappointment at Level 1 or Level 2 during the last 6 months of their term.