



**FEBRUARY 2019**

**PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE  
UNIVERSITY SENATE**

# PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE

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## PURPOSE OF TITLE

- To hire qualified academic, business or government leaders from practice.
- These leaders in industry may not have traditional academic credentials.
- To recognize that innovation and leadership may be coming from areas of professional practice.

## BENEFITS OF TITLE

- Mature, seasoned programs have this title.
- Opportunity for endowed/ sponsored professor title (naming).
- Title carries seriousness, importance, significance... (as opposed to a TES hire or leading a workshop).

## PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN THE US:

1. Education, Experience and Examination
2. Continuing Education, Code of Ethics and Reprimand of members who violate code of conduct.
3. Mentoring of young interns (many professionals are gifted teachers)

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## PROGRAMS AT AU THAT SUPPORT THIS TITLE:

School of Fisheries, Aquaculture & Aquatic Sciences

Auburn University School of Nursing

Harrison School of Pharmacy

Department of Horticulture

School of Fisheries, Aquaculture & Aquatic Sciences

Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology

Department of Civil Engineering

Department of Aerospace Engineering

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Program of Architecture

Program of Landscape Architecture

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## QUOTES FROM COLLEAGUES

“Many of our peer and aspirational institutions already have this type of faculty lines, and it puts us at a **competitive disadvantage** since we cannot provide the same enrichment of our student experience.”

“In aerospace engineering in particular this series will allow us to more efficiently benefit from the **vast wealth of relevant experience and technical expertise** of practicing engineers concentrated in Huntsville, the Florida Space Coast and other regions in the southeast.”

“We often interact with **national and world leaders** in fisheries and aquaculture. Such a title would allow us to take advantage of these relationships in a way we currently cannot.”

“Their connections and influence could assist us in making more competitive grant proposals or funding requests from the federal and state government, because of their connections and influence in the business/academic/government world, they could **help us to explore new opportunities for collaborative research and outreach** efforts.”

“We have found that practicing pharmacists have first-hand experiences that non-practicing faculty or instructors are not regularly exposed to that make them highly effective teachers. In the past, we have paid several **practicing pharmacists as TES to have them facilitate small group learning** and skills laboratories.”

“...many of our clinical faculty are expert practitioners, they do not come with the kind of preparation that is required for tenure track positions, that leaves us with only the lecturer position, which doesn’t offer **the possibility of an appointment that includes scholarly work**.”

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## UNIVERSITIES WITH THIS TITLE:

1. Yale University, Charles Gwathmey Professor of Practice (Peter Eisenmann)
2. University of Pennsylvania, Professor of Practice, 5 Positions (Homa Farjadi and Thomas Mayne)
3. Harvard Graduate School of Design  
Professor in Practice of Urban Planning (Toni L. Griffin)  
Professor in Practice of Architecture (Jeanne Gang)  
Professor in Practice of Architectural Technology (Hanif Kara)  
John Portman Professor in Practice of Architecture (Remment Koolhaas)  
Professor in Practice of Urban Design (Alex Krieger)  
Professor in Practice of Landscape Architecture (Martha Schwartz)
4. Cornell University adopted the title in 2016, adopted by the College of Engineering
5. Professor of the Practice title at Georgia Tech “qualified academic, business or government leaders”.
6. Tulane University- School of Business, Neuroscience Program
7. Duke University, since the 1980s
8. Purdue University, Computer Science
9. University of Texas System allows for title with rank
10. The University of Alabama, Distinguished Professor of the Practice of Law (Joyce Vance)

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## QUICK REVIEW OF SOME SPECIFIC POINTS ABOUT THIS TITLE SERIES:

1. The title series is NTTF and is not eligible for promotion (e.g. there is no Senior Professor of Practice option)
2. Professors of Practice can be either part-time or fulltime faculty
3. Professors of Practice are prohibited from teaching core courses (this is not the focus of this title series)
4. Professors of Practice, like all instructional faculty at Auburn, must meet the SACSCOC credentialing requirements for teaching their courses
4. No AU unit is required to use this title series
5. Please note that the complete title series document is available to all via the Senate agenda

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## NEXT STEPS:

1. Please read the Professor of Practice Title series document and send comments and questions to Emmett Winn at [winnjoh@auburn.edu](mailto:winnjoh@auburn.edu) by March 29<sup>th</sup>
2. We are planning to bring the Professor of Practice title series forward as an action item at the April Senate meeting
3. Once approved the title series will be sent to the FHBRC for review and addition to the *Faculty Handbook*



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**QUESTIONS?**