



Oregon State
University

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Dwaine Plaza, Faculty Senate President

Subj: Professor of Teaching Rank

February 21, 2020

Dear XX,

I am writing to update you on the work that the Faculty Senate began a few years ago related to institutionalizing the rank of Professor of Teaching at Oregon State University. Unfortunately, the inertia to get the Professor of Teaching rank was curtailed because of external factors. Recently, Bob Mason and Henri Jansen approached me about forming a new committee to reconsider a Professor of Teaching rank for Oregon State University.

The Professor of Teaching rank typically has a workload profile that is about 70% teaching, 10% service, 15% scholarship and 5% professional development. The Professor of Teaching's workload is adjusted based on each college and their specific needs. It is intended that the Professor of Teaching rank will have three steps – assistant, associate and full – similar to those in the rank of Professor of Practice. The promotion process would be evaluated by a committee based on a dossier created by the faculty member. The normal progression is about 6 or 7 years for each step. The Professor of Teaching rank has already been successfully implemented at comparator institutions which include the University of Washington, Penn State and USC.

Our next step in this process is to organize a small and nimble group of faculty, representing each college across campus, which is charged with investigating and developing a Professor of Teaching model for Oregon State University. The committee will be co-chaired by Bob Mason and Henri Jansen. The objective of the committee is to eventually present a motion to the Faculty Senate to adopt a unique Professor of Teaching Model for Oregon State University.

Mike, I am writing to invite you to participate as a member of the Professor of Practice research team. I feel that your experience, as well as your understanding of what would be required to design a new faculty rank at Oregon State University, would make you a valuable asset to this committee. The committee would start working immediately, and complete the research work during spring term 2020.

Mike, I hope you will seriously consider joining others on this important committee who are charged with making significant policy changes that will affect future generations of Oregon State University faculty.

Sincerely,

Dwaine Plaza
Faculty Senate President

C: R. Mason
H. Jansen
D. Plaza