University of St. Thomas Policies

FACULTY EMERITUS/EMERITA Policy Number: F.01.04

Scope: All contracted University faculty

Purpose: To establish policy for awarding the honorary title of faculty emeritus or faculty emerita

POLICY

Faculty emeriti/a are faculty members who, upon retirement, are awarded the honorary title of emeritus/a, a title linked to the rank held at the time of retirement. This title is conferred on a faculty member who has sustained meritorious academic contributions through at least ten years of teaching, research/scholarship/creative works, and service at the University of St. Thomas. This title of recognition is added to the rank held at the time of retirement.

Upon receiving the notice of retirement of a faculty member who is qualified to be awarded emeritus/a status, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, after consultation with the appropriate dean, will nominate him/her in a formal letter to the President, who will, if he/she supports the nomination, forward a recommendation to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Directors. If the committee supports the recommendation, the members forward this recommendation to the Board of Directors, who have the final authority to confer this title.

1. Rights and Responsibilities

Faculty Emeriti/ae will retain faculty library and athletic facilities privileges. They will be kept informed of University activities and be included in social functions for faculty. The title, however, implies no contractual responsibilities.

If a Faculty Emeritus/a is contracted to teach, submit grant proposals, manage research funds, or receive University compensation for scholarly or other academic mission activities, a letter of agreement with the University defining the duties and expectations is necessary. With this contractual arrangement, the faculty emeritus/a retains voting membership on the Faculty Council; without it, he/she is a non-voting member of the Faculty Council.

2. Revocation of Emeritus/a status

The privileges awarded to emeriti/ae faculty are not contractual rights and are at the sole discretion of the University. Emeritus/a status may be revoked at any time. Without limiting such discretion, revocation may occur when it is determined that the individual's conduct, before or after receiving the emeritus/a designation, conflicts with the intent and spirit of the designation and/or causes harm to the University's reputation.

The President is authorized to make the decision to revoke emeritus/a status. The President shall inform the affected individual, and shall notify the Board of Directors, for information purposes, as well as the appropriate dean or administrative officer. This policy is intended to confirm the
existing "at will" nature of emeritus/a status and thus applies to all individuals who currently hold emeritus/a status or may be granted such status in the future.