

The Role of Research Faculty in an Academic Department

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Goals

- Survey current practices
- Understand variations
 - Numbers
 - Policies
 - Appointment
 - Evaluation
 - Duties and privileges
- Discussion

USC Numbers

- 27 Tenured and TT Faculty
- 38 Research Faculty
 - 25 at ISI
 - 8 at ICT
 - Others on main campus

Definition

"designates an individual conducting research, principally on external funding, usually associated with a center, institute, or laboratory rather than a degree-granting department.

May engage only in limited teaching and only as an ancillary responsibility.

The term is used to modify the titles: Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor (such as "Research Assistant Professor")."

Eligibility Criteria

employed full time at USC

any exceptions must be approved by

CS chair and

Dean of Engineering

This position is subject to contract (funding) availability

Appointment process

- candidate forwards a resume, reference list, and a statement which describes his/her interest in an appointment as a research faculty member to the chair of Computer Science
- a dossier is formed and a department subcommittee writes for letters and evaluates the candidacy. Issues such as the size of the committee, the number of letters solicited, etc. follow the guidelines already established for appointing tenure track faculty
- candidate gives a technical presentation and spend a day on campus meeting with faculty and students
- faculty vote on the candidate's appointment

Who votes?

- **research assistant professors:** all faculty at the rank of assistant professor or research assistant professor and up
- **research associate professors:** all faculty at the rank of associate professor or research associate professor and up
- **research professors:** all faculty at the rank of professor or research professor

Criteria

- Based primarily on research potential and accomplishments
- Expected to be comparable to expectations for appointment of TT faculty at the same rank
- Senior candidates should have produced a significant body of excellent research work and acquired a national or international reputation as a leader in the field

Rights and Responsibilities

- Faculty Status
- May teach. No more than one per academic year
- Chair of Ph.D. committees
- Ph.D. qualifying and Ph.D. thesis committees
- advise M.S. and Ph.D. students
- May be PI on research grants and contracts
- May consult in accordance with the policy of the SoE ... and research unit

Contributions to CS

- Expected participation
- Publications in the scientific literature
- Supervising graduate students
- Other scientific activities

Evaluation

- Submit Annual Faculty Record
- Research Faculty Evaluation Committee
 - Ranking
 - Reappointment/Promotion recommendation
 - Feedback to Unit director