



**Senior Research Professors
Terms of Reference
August 2024**

A retired faculty member who remains research active* may hold an appointment as a Senior Research Professor (SRP). No remuneration is associated with this appointment. Appointments are made on a case-by-case basis following consultation with the relevant Department or Program and with the agreement of the Dean and the Associate Vice President, Research and Graduate Studies (AVPRGS). SRP appointments are approved by the Academic Vice President and Provost (AVP).

** research active shall be judged based on disciplinary norms in terms of relevant research outputs under development or completed, research activities, partnerships & collaborations underway, research grants or funding held, or immediate plans to apply for research funding*

A Senior Research Professor may be granted office or lab space, and/or other support as mutually agreed with the relevant Department or Program, Dean and AVP, and as defined in the AUT Collective Agreement. A Senior Research Professor is not a formal member of an academic unit in terms of the Collective Agreement and its processes and procedures. SRPs are required to follow all university policies and procedures (including, but not limited to, research).

A Senior Research Professor shall not be entitled to apply for internal research funding normally reserved for faculty members (e.g. UCR or URPTA awards), however, they shall be entitled to apply to relevant endowments for the purposes of hosting visiting researchers or sponsoring research lectures etc.

SRPs shall be eligible to include students (undergraduate or graduate students) in their research efforts as research assistants. SRPs shall be able, with the agreement of the Department Chair or Program Coordinator to co-supervise honours undergraduate or graduate students. SRPs planning to supervise graduate students shall be required to demonstrate that they have sufficient funding to support the student until the conclusion of their program.

The University will provide retired faculty members holding research grants on retirement laboratory or office space for the duration of the grants. SRPs requiring laboratory space for research shall normally be expected to hold external research grants in order to help contribute towards the indirect costs of maintaining these facilities.



Procedures

1. A request for an appointment as a Senior Research Professor (SRP) is normally initiated by the faculty member applying to the appropriate Dean for consideration, who in turn will consult with the relevant Department Chair or Program Coordinator and the Associate Vice President, Research and Graduate Studies.
2. The request for appointment must include a detailed plan for the research to be undertaken during the SRP timeframe, key deliverables (if applicable), any infrastructure or other forms of support needed (as well as a justification for this support), and how the proposed research work aligns with the previous research of the applicant. The applicant must also attach an up-to-date CV or summary of research funding support and recent research outputs.
3. If the Dean and AVPRGS support the SRP appointment following consultation with the Department Chair or Program Coordinator, it is forwarded to the Academic Vice-President and Provost, for decision.
4. SRPs are normally appointed for a period of up to three-years. A five-year term SRP appointment may be made for SRPs holding (or applying for) research grants of up to five years.
5. Renewal of a SRP appointment may be made by the AVP upon the recommendation of the Dean and AVPRGS following consultation with the appropriate Department Chair or Program Coordinator and provided there has been a demonstration of research productivity* during the previous appointment.
6. Application for renewal must be made at least 4 months before the end of the SRP's appointment period.