CALS Policy, Professors of Practice Performing Research

Summary: CALS Professors of Practice do not write grant proposals or conduct research as part of their academic appointment except when these activities relate directly to the scholarship of effective instruction. They can negotiate a separate contract to conduct research during the summer months. Specific guidance is provided in this policy.

A POP contract is for teaching and teaching-related duties. These duties are clearly defined in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences POP Appointment and Promotion Guidelines, and in the Office of Instruction and Assessment (now the University Center for Assessment, Teaching and Technology) Professor of Practice Promotion Criteria document. Duties include:

- Preparation and delivery of course content and classroom materials;
- Instruction and mentoring of students;
- Ongoing professional development to improve effectiveness of teaching, which may include research directly related to innovations in teaching and teaching assessment;
- Service at the departmental, college, university levels;
- Service at the regional, national, or global levels, which may include participation in professional associations within the discipline.
- POPs are permitted to supervise graduate students and serve on graduate-level committees with the approval of the Graduate College and their unit head. Supervision of graduate students is a voluntary activity and is not required.

POPs do not write grant proposals or conduct research as part of their academic appointment except when these activities relate directly to the scholarship of effective instruction. Traditional scientific research activity not related to innovations in teaching or assessment will not be part of the POP faculty member’s annual performance review nor will it be evaluated as part of the promotion process within the POP track.

POPs on academic appointments can negotiate a separate contract to conduct research during the summer months under the following guidance:

- Research can be either compensated or voluntary;
- Research is conducted with the approval of their Unit Head;
- As stated above, research activity related to supplementary contracts that is not related to innovations in teaching, including publications arising from such research, will not be evaluated during annual or promotion reviews.