Participating and Supporting Faculty in the Belk College of Business

It is important to the pursuit of the College’s mission that the majority of student credit hours are delivered by faculty whose relationship to the College includes a significant engagement in the life of the College and involvement in the evolution of its curriculum. Those faculty members who meet that definition are designated as “participating faculty.”

Criteria for Designation as a Participating Faculty Member

Normally, all tenured or tenure track faculty members will be designated as participating faculty members by virtue of the faculty member’s responsibilities in the areas of teaching, research, and service. Clearly these participants are expected to be involved in the life of the College well beyond the classroom assignment.

All other faculty such as clinical faculty or lecturers, regardless of classification as full-time or part-time, must be evaluated to determine their status as participating or supporting faculty. The distinction of participating versus supporting faculty goes beyond the distinction of a full-time versus a part-time faculty member. Indeed it is possible for a part-time faculty member to be participating, and it is possible for a full-time faculty member to be viewed as supporting.

To be designated as a participating faculty member, the individual must be viewed as (1) having a realized or anticipated long-term relationship with the College that extends beyond one year; (2) having an expectation of attending most faculty meetings, particularly those that are related to curriculum and assurance of learning; and (3) having participated in at least one of the following activities:

1. Serve as an academic or career advisor
2. Serve as an advisor to a student organization
3. Serve on a departmental, college, or university Committee
4. Engage in an activity related to the production of an intellectual contribution
5. Serve on a task force or committee involving curriculum review or enhancement
6. Participate in other activities other than classroom teaching that further the mission of the College, as determined by the ADFR.

Faculty who do not meet the above criteria will be designated as supporting faculty members.
Designation as a Supporting Faculty Member

The use of faculty members that are not a part of the regular faculty contingent represent an important resource and provide a valuable educational experience for students of the Belk College. These faculty members include practitioners from the corporate and not-for-profit communities, retired executives, and faculty visiting from institutions across the world. The multiple commitments of these faculty members beyond their teaching responsibilities and the relatively short term relationship with the College prevent these individuals from being full participants in the life of the College. These faculty members may be best viewed as temporary actors yet supportive of the College’s mission.

Process for Determination of Participating or Supporting Status

Each Academic Year, at a time designated by the Dean of the College, the Associate Dean for Faculty and Research (ADFR), will conduct a review of all non-tenured or non-tenure track faculty to determine the participating or supporting status of each faculty member for the next full academic year. The ADFR shall submit a report to the Dean of the College indicating the percentage of participating faculty in the College, in each discipline, program and location. Program managers and department chairs are expected to maintain a minimum of 60% of credit hours taught by participating faculty in each of the programs under his or her direction. The ADFR will ensure that the overall percentage of credit hours taught in the College by participating faculty meets or exceeds 75%.

Administrative Policy
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