Criteria for Appointment, Reappointment and Promotion of Research Faculty in the Non-Tenured Track (NTT) Title Series for the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research

There are five ranks in the NTT Research Title Series:
- Research Associate
- Assistant Research Professor
- Associate Research Professor
- Research Professor
- Distinguished Research Professor

**Appointment**

The main criteria for appointment at each of the five ranks in the NTT Research Title Series include degree requirements and accomplishments in research and scholarship. Criteria for accomplishments in teaching and service are also noted. The criteria are included under each rank and described separately in detail below.

**Reappointment**

The criteria for reappointment include the continued need for the position, availability of funding and satisfactory performance in the existing position including productivity and service in accordance with the mission of the Institute for Health and the University as appropriate to the level of the appointment. Reappointments are made by the Director of the Institute for Health upon recommendation by the Division Chair or Center Director.

**Promotion**

The evaluation for promotion will be based primarily on accomplishments in research and scholarship. Contributions to teaching and service will also be considered. A description of the criteria used to assess excellence in scholarship, teaching and service can be found at the end of this document. Promotion is also contingent on the continued need for the position and the availability of funding.

After six years in a given rank, the NTT research faculty will be evaluated for promotion to the next level. NTT research faculty can request to be evaluated earlier if they feel they meet the promotion criteria applicable to the next position.

**Research Associate:** This rank is an entry level appointment. Individuals who meet the criteria for promotion to higher ranks are eligible for an appointment at a higher level. The individual considered for appointment at this rank should normally hold a Master’s degree and preferably a doctoral or clinical degree in one of the social, natural or applied sciences.

**Assistant Research Professor:** The individual must hold a doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, ScD, MD, DNP, DNSc), although in rare instances may hold a Master’s degree if the individual
demonstrates doctoral-level expertise. The individual must show evidence of initial accomplishments in research and scholarship.

**Associate Research Professor:** The main criterion is excellence in research and scholarship. Promotion to this rank requires that the individual has steadily published original research articles in their field of research and developed external funding to support their research or a program’s research. Significant accomplishments in the activities specified under the criteria of teaching and service will strengthen a candidacy for promotion to NTT Associate Research Professor. Accomplishments in teaching and service cannot replace excellence in scholarship and research as a justification for promotion to NTT Associate Research Professor.

**Research Professor:** For promotion to this rank an individual should have made substantial progress in research and scholarship and demonstrated further distinction beyond that required at the Associate Research Professor level. The main criteria include an individual having steadily contributed a high volume of important and original research articles in their field of research and maintained a high level of external funding to support their research program. Significant accomplishments in the activities specified under the criteria of teaching and service will strengthen a candidacy for promotion to NTT Research Professor. Accomplishments in teaching and service cannot replace excellence in scholarship and research as a justification for promotion to NTT Research Professor.

**Distinguished Research Professor:** The criteria for promotion to NTT Distinguished Professor are significantly higher than those applied in promotion to Research Professor. Promotion to this rank is reserved for those faculty members who have achieved scholarly eminence in their discipline and fields of inquiry. Only those faculty members who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in those areas by earning significant recognition inside and outside the University are eligible for promotion to Distinguished Professor. Typically, such recognition is reflected in national and international reputation in the individual’s discipline. Significant accomplishments in the activities specified under the criterion of teaching and service will strengthen a candidacy for promotion to NTT Distinguished Research Professor. These accomplishments cannot replace excellence in scholarship and research as a justification for promotion to NTT Distinguished Research Professor.

**Description of the criteria used to assess excellence in scholarship, teaching and service**

**Scholarship:** Active scholarship should be a fundamental endeavor of all NTT Research faculty members. Scholarship, including basic and applied research, means in-depth study and learning in a specific field and inquiry and observational studies and/or experimentation designed to make direct contributions to knowledge in that field. Scholarship, as measured by peer recognition of its originality, its impact and importance to the development of the field, is primarily demonstrated by refereed publications, such as journal articles and books of high quality and through securing external funding through research awards and/or competitive fellowships appropriate to the faculty member's field of study. Publication of original, high quality scholarship in non-peer-reviewed outlets can also demonstrate scholarly accomplishment when such publication is needed to achieve effective dissemination or translation of findings to non-scholarly audiences. Scholarship and research accomplishments are also demonstrated by
presentation of papers at organized scholarly and professional meetings usually at the national or international level; publication in other academic or professional journals; lecturing in professional and other public forums; and design and execution of basic and applied research in the field or laboratory. Significant additional contributions appropriate to a research program or project(s) include generating independent research ideas in coordination with a principal investigator, project director or chair and demonstrating a high level of initiative and ability to work independently.

**Teaching:** Although not required or expected from NTT Research Associates or NTT Research Professors at any level, contributions to teaching will strengthen a candidacy for promotion. Teaching includes classroom and field instruction (credit or non-credit); supervision of research by undergraduates, graduate students and postdoctoral trainees; serving on graduate student thesis committees; academic advising and acting as a mentor; improvement and enrichment of course offerings and other instructional activities within the faculty member's discipline or profession; participation in interdisciplinary courses, honors courses, special courses and other courses offered through the undergraduate colleges, graduate school and other units of the University; and writing of textbooks and the development of other instructional materials to enhance education in the faculty member's discipline or profession. Effective teachers must demonstrate depth and breadth of knowledge in their discipline, must communicate this knowledge to others and must give evidence of a continuing development of their knowledge so as to insure their continued effective teaching over the duration of their appointment. Staying informed of advances and current thinking in their subject and relating them to their teaching in a meaningful and balanced way is important. Effective teachers communicate enthusiasm for their subject and have a responsibility to create a positive environment for learning and one that stimulates imaginative thinking. They maintain a critical attitude toward their teaching and strive continuously to improve it.

**Service:** Contributions that a faculty member makes to the academic profession, to the University and to society at large will strengthen a candidacy for promotion. Contributions to the advancement of the academic or clinical profession are most typically demonstrated by active participation in professional and scholarly associations; by service on editorial boards and as a reviewer of scholarly works and proposals; by participation on expert review committees, such as the National Institute for Health (NIH), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), National Science Foundation (NSF) or other review panels and research committees of various federal organizations. Contributions to the effective operation of the University at all levels are most typically demonstrated by significant academic and professional service to the department, the discipline, the faculty, the undergraduate colleges, the graduate programs, the campus, or the University as a whole, through activities such as contributions to important committees and other activities in support of the academic mission of the University. Contributions to society at large are most typically demonstrated through the application of the faculty member's academic expertise and particular professional skills to the solution of international, national, state, county and local problems and by service for the public good on governmental and other special committees, boards, agencies, civic groups and commissions.