Old Dominion University Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook

Dual-Career Resource for Those Hiring Full-Time Faculty

Teaching- Research-Administrative

Old Dominion University is committed to assisting dual-career couples when one member of the couple has an offer of employment at the University, and both are considering relocating to the area. Such assistance is extended within available resources and in cases that support the university's mission and goals, This document outlines the basic services offered once an offer has been made to the primary candidate.

For couples with both members in academe, employment needs will vary from one case to another, and the University will assist with opportunities at ODU wherever possible and appropriate. However, these considerations do not create an entitlement. Given limited resources, the lack of disciplinary or administrative fit in some cases, and the University's strategic plan, it is impossible to __meet the employment needs of all dual-career couples in academe.

To support dual-career couples, the appropriate executive vice president will collaborate with the Division of Talent Management and Culture to help each prospective candidate who wishes to explore career options for their partner. The partner of a newly recruited faculty or faculty administrator may be offered job search assistance for up to one year. Such assistance may include general information on employment in the region, identification of appropriate employers, and connections with contacts in the partner's field. The hiring manager should inform candidates of this Dual-Career Resource.

In cases where classified positions are appropriate and of interest to the individual, a referral should be made to Human Resources to review both opportunities and strategies for pursuing staff positions.

Note: Hiring supervisors are advised that classified positions fall under Commonwealth of Virginia hiring policies and must follow the standard search/recruitment and hiring process as outlined by the Department of Human Resource Management-DHRM.

Information about employment opportunities in the region may result in an appropriate position for some people. In other instances, referral to existing vacancies on the ODU faculty or staff may provide an appropriate match between an employment opportunity and the partner's skills. In cases where a position does not currently exist, and the individual's credentials merit consideration for hiring, it may benefit the University to allocate funding to accommodate a dual-career couple. The following considerations address these instances.

- Allocation of a position, either temporary or renewable, for a dual-career partner, should address demonstrated institutional and/or departmental needs and goals.
- There must be an appropriate fit between the qualifications of the individual and the available or proposed position.
- 3. Following the interview and evaluation process, an offer of employment to the partner shall be extended only if there is strong support from the department and hiring supervisor/chair where the position is to be located (the receiving department). Expression of departmental support will be obtained in a manner consistent with the normal hiring process for the receiving department.
- 4. University procedures allow an exemption to search requirements for a dual-career appointment to a faculty or faculty administrator position. Requests for an exemption to a search are approved by the President on the recommendation of the appropriate Vice President.

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Implementation Procedures for Hiring Managers Key Terms

- Hiring Manager: Individual hiring primary candidate for open position
- Hiring Department: Unit where primary candidate has applied for an open position
- Receiving Manager: Individual who may consider a partner or spouse for a position
- Receiving Department: Unit where the primary candidate's spouse or partner may be considered.

Identifying Possibilities for Appointment: The primary candidate informs the hiring manager about the need for dual-career consideration and provides, information regarding the partner's educational background, experience, and application materials. The hiring manager investigates and identifies the best possibilities for employment in consultation with the potential receiving departments(s), the dualcareer liaison, and the respective Vice President, if needed. The relevant chain of command must be kept apprised of any discussions. This includes the Dean or department Chair and respective Vice President.

Other options are described below.

Evaluating and Interviewing the Partner: The unit in which the partner is being considered (the receiving department (and/or college) initiates an evaluation process, including a review of the vita/resume and references of the partner, and conducts an interview with the partner. If there is a search committee in the receiving department, this search committee would normally be involved, as would other faculty or faculty administrators. The partner's qualifications should be evaluated using criteria appropriate to the proposed role and credentials required in the field. For example, it must be determined that the partner is sufficiently qualified to have been a finalist in an external search if one were conducted for the position into which the partner is to be hired. Standard review and appointment procedures should be used to the extent possible, and the level of review should be consistent with that accorded similar positions and types of appointments.

Taking Steps When There is an Existing Position or Funding Available in the Receiving Department and/or College: Receiving departments (and/or college) that have available funds and/or positions and are prepared to make an offer for the partner develop an appropriate job description (if not already available) and offer and then seek an exemption to search, using the process in place by the Division of Talent Management and Culture, The search exemption includes a letter of explanation including a brief statement of how the proposed appointment benefits the receiving department (and/or college) and

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<#>Distributing an information sheet or brochure to candidates 1

Providing information about a liaison to dualcareer couples in the office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Officeappropriate executive vice president and in the Division of

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August 2024 28 documenting the process used to review and evaluate the candidate. The hiring manager also attaches the candidate's <u>vitae</u>/resume. The exemption request must be approved by the department head, the relevant Dean or senior manager, the relevant Vice President, and the <u>Division of Talent Management and Culture</u>. A formal offer may not be made until approval has been granted.

Taking Steps When a New Position Must be Allocated and Shared Funding Arranged: In cases where the receiving department (and/or college/school) does not already have a position and/or adequate funds available to support the proposed appointment, the receiving department hiring manager and Vice President may develop a model for the position to be funded on a transitional basis.

Permanent funding, in the case of a base-funded appointment, is the responsibility of the receiving department (and/or college/school) at the end of the transition period. Temporary funding may be available from the Vice President yet may not be available to support all requests. Typically, the highest priority would be to support a dual-career partner position alongside a tenure-track or tenured faculty hire or an administrative hire. If the receiving department (and/or college/school) accepts temporary funding from the Vice President, the understanding is that the dual-career appointment continues beyond the temporary period only if the performance and accomplishments of the individual warrant continuation. However, as noted above, this does not create an entitlement.

Departments requesting funding assistance should submit a written proposal through the responsible/appropriate chain of command. The following information is needed to evaluate the request:

- 1. A justification for the request;
- 2. An explanation of how the university will benefit from the appointment and how the proposed appointment fits within the priorities of the receiving department (and/or college);
- 3. The CV/resume of the individual under consideration;
- 4. The proposed salary, type of appointment, and job description;
- A statement indicating the source and amount of funds from the participating units, and the amount requested for temporary funding, if available, from the Vice President, and the time involved in the transition; and
- 6. Plan for potential future funding. (The goal is to move employees from temporary funds to permanent funds whenever feasible and appropriate.)

Making an Employment Offer: Upon approval by the Vice President and the <u>Division of Talent</u> <u>Management and Culture</u>, the receiving department head is authorized to make the offer to the dual-career partner, using the standard Notice of Appointment detailing the nature and conditions of the appointment, including the length of the appointment if applicable. Expectations, including any special considerations, should be documented <u>clearly</u> for the employment record and for performance reviews.

Dual-Career Issues Associated with Retention

Retention of talented, <u>currently employed</u> faculty can also be affected by employment opportunities for their partners. In the case where there is a determination that a <u>dual career</u>.

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appointment is critical to retaining the faculty member, and it is in the university's interest to try to respond to this need, the process described in this document for new hires provides general guidance on how to proceed for retention of a faculty member. The nature and conditions of the appointment and the length of the appointment, if applicable, should be specified. In addition, expectations should be stated very clearly so that any special considerations are fully documented for the employment record and for performance reviews.

Options Other than Tenure-Track or Administrative Appointments

Research Faculty: Status as an unpaid research faculty member may allow a fully credentialed person to pursue grants and contracts as a member of the ODU faculty. The host department may provide lab or office space or other resources, as available, to support the individual's efforts to obtain sponsored funding or to continue his or her research. The department chair recommends appointment of a full-time research faculty member to the Dean. The Dean recommends it to the appropriate executive vice president, who consults with the Vice President for Research and Economic Development before making the final decision concerning the appointment. If the appointment is approved, the appropriate executive vice president notifies the faculty member. With the appropriate credentials and research faculty rank, the individual may serve as Pl on grant(s) with permission of the department.

Research Appointments: The ODU Policy on Self-Supporting Research Professional Positions may provide employment opportunities for well- qualified partners of newly hired employees. If the individual fills the need on an existing grant or contract, the procedure for hiring is like that described above. That is a position description should be developed, credentials evaluated, the individual interviewed, and a request made for an exemption to search. The Vice President for Research and Economic Development approves such requests on the recommendation of the appropriate executive vice president.

Other Restricted Appointments: Individuals may fill important institutional or departmental needs that are not yet defined or funded as renewable positions. These can be full- or part-time, instructional, or administrative.

Enrollment in Graduate School: A spouse or partner may prefer enrollment in an ODU graduate program rather than full-time employment. Such potential students must be admitted through the usual program admission procedures and may be considered for whatever departmental funding is offered to all students.

Approved by the President February 2, 2017

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