Proposal for the Creation of Courtesy Appointments at Columbia Business School

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Columbia Business School benefits greatly from its interactions with faculty in other schools and departments of the University. A process for granting courtesy appointments will permit the Business School to recognize faculty in other parts of the University whose involvement with the Business School is particularly valuable and to highlight the school’s association with distinguished scholars outside the school.

The Business School should be selective in granting courtesy appointments to ensure that such appointments are beneficial to the school and valued by the recipients. The school should consider the following criteria in making these appointments:

- Is the candidate a distinguished scholar?
- How does the candidate’s expertise support the Business School’s research and teaching missions?
- How has the candidate been involved with the Business School in the past? What interactions are expected in the future?

The proposed guidelines and procedures for courtesy appointments are as follows:

- Only full-time faculty of Columbia University are eligible. Both tenured and untenured faculty are eligible.
- A candidate for a courtesy appointment is nominated by one of the school’s divisions. A nomination should include background on the candidate, the rationale for the appointment, and the candidate’s intended role.
- Each courtesy appointment is associated with a division. The number of courtesy appointments associated with a division should ordinarily not exceed 15% of the size of the division.
- Each nomination is reviewed by the Executive Committee and then brought to a vote of the tenured faculty of the Business School.
- A courtesy appointment is made for a five-year term. An appointment may be renewed through a vote of the host division and the Executive Committee; another vote of the tenured faculty is not required. There is no limit on the number of times an appointment may be renewed. Each reappointment should consider the candidate’s involvement with the Business School in the previous term.
- Faculty holding courtesy appointments should be invited to school and divisional social events, but not to faculty meetings. They are not eligible to vote on any Business School matters.
- On the Business School’s website and in other school publications, faculty holding courtesy appointments should be listed using “Professor (by courtesy)” or a similar designation. The dates of the appointment should be included in the faculty member’s entry on the school website.