



UA SCIENCE

# LUNAR & PLANETARY LABORATORY

## RESEARCH PROFESSOR RANKS

LUNAR AND PLANETARY LABORATORY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

### ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

#### **Research Professor Ranks**

Research Professor ranks consist of the following titles: (Full) Research Professor, Associate Research Professor, and Assistant Research Professor. These titles are intended to indicate a sequence of ranks parallel to the academic ranks of Professor, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor, respectively. Requirements regarding education, experience, and accomplishments are parallel to those of academic faculty, and comparable standards of performance and achievement apply to promotions within the parallel ladders at the corresponding levels.

Research Professors function in a manner similar to tenure-track faculty; however, they have no regular teaching responsibilities. Individual will negotiate their workloads with the Director of the Laboratory. Research Professors report to the Director of the Laboratory and are evaluated annually, as part of the Faculty Performance Peer Review process. Salary range is open and is to correspond roughly to that of academic faculty in the corresponding ranks. Research Professors are regular voting members of the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory faculty, but they do not participate in certain matters, such as those pertaining to promotion and tenure of tenure-eligible personnel. Appointment, reappointment, and promotion procedures and criteria for Research Professors are described in Chapter 3 of the [University Handbook for Appointed Personnel](#); Research Professor titles are subject to the [Promotion and Tenure Guidelines](#) for the Department of Planetary Sciences/Lunar and Planetary Laboratory.

Research Professor ranks are annually renewable appointments in the laboratory and university, subject in all cases to the continuing availability of funds. Appointments to these ranks are based on distinguished and extensive scientific contributions and the promise of continuing contributions, as judged by the Director in consultation with the senior faculty and relevant committees.

#### **Assistant Research Professor**

Appointments to the rank of Assistant Research Professor are made as a result of a national search, conducted for LPL by the Recruitment Committee or as a result of a target of opportunity identified in response to laboratory research needs and opportunities as determined by the Director in consultation with the faculty. Applications from qualified individuals already holding appointments in the department or laboratory will be encouraged, as appropriate.

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The Assistant Research Professor rank is a position for scientists early in their careers as independent researchers supported by research grants and contracts. Appointments are made on the basis of demonstrated accomplishments and promise, as judged by the Director in consultation with the faculty. Promotion to the associate rank is possible after a minimum of three years of service in the assistant rank. Candidates for promotion to the associate rank are reviewed as described under [UHAP 3.303 \(Promotion Reviews of Career-Track Faculty\)](#). The Lunar and Planetary Laboratory takes an inclusive view of scholarship: in particular, in some cases, a major and valuable research activity of an academic professional may be a project of long duration and large scale, the products of which may be mission development or essential research instrumentation, contributions to large nationwide surveys or campaigns, or other activities that contribute to the scientific enterprise and to furthering science and/or science education, as well as scholarly publications.

### **Associate Research Professor**

Appointment or promotion to Associate Research Professor will require evidence of an established and productive career in addition to the qualifications required of the assistant rank. Such an individual will be known at the state, regional, and national level for the individual's particular expertise, and will contribute to the departmental program in a significant fashion. Annual reappointments may be made an indefinite number of times, subject to satisfactory performance evaluations. Associate Research Professors may go up for promotion to the rank of professor at any time. The position is subject to the continuing availability of funds.

### **(Full) Research Professor**

Appointment or promotion to Research Professor will require outstanding qualifications regarding expertise and experience in addition to the qualifications required of an associate professor. Such an individual must have achieved national and international recognition through peer organizations and will bring distinction to the department. Research Professors may be reappointed annually provided they continue to meet the criteria for the rank and perform satisfactorily as determined by annual performance evaluations. The position is subject to the continuing availability of funds.