

COUNCIL ON EXCELLENCE

DEFINITION OF AN EXCELLENT FACULTY MEMBER

The primary areas of focus for an excellent faculty member include teaching (the first priority), supporting students, engaging in significant college service, and participating in substantive professional development opportunities.

I. TEACHING

The excellent faculty member:

- Facilitates learning
- Conveys the fundamental body of knowledge in the discipline and can apply that knowledge
- Teaches students how to critique, analyze, and build upon that body of knowledge
- Shows students how to apply concepts and provide evidence to demonstrate that knowledge
- Employs current materials, applies contemporary research, and uses effective and innovative methods of instruction
- Responds to the differing educational needs of a diverse student body
- Provides meaningful feedback to students in an effective evaluation process

II. ADVISING AND SUPPORTING STUDENTS

The excellent faculty member:

- Provides advice to students about career and curriculum options
- Helps students with academic problems
- Directs students to competent help for academic and non-academic problems
- Supports student organizations and events
- Is available to and approachable by students

III. COLLEGE SERVICE

The excellent faculty member:

- Actively and productively participates in college-wide, division, and department councils, task forces, and committees
- Creates innovative programs/activities for the district that benefit students
- Performs other service activities designed to further the accomplishment of the college's mission
- Represents the college in the community served by the college district
- Engages in professionally-related community service

IV. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The excellent faculty member:

- Remains current and competent in the discipline, staying vigilant and continuously monitoring advances in related scholarship
- Creates and sustains an on-going program of self-development and improved pedagogy

- Seeks opportunities for any of the following:
 - Professional growth in one's discipline (formal research and publication, production in one's art, professional performance, etc.)
 - Presentations before professional societies or other meetings
 - Work in the field
 - Workshop and conference participation
 - Holding office in professional associations or in the community
 - Academic career advancement through course work progressing toward a terminal degree