



SUBJECT	Report on Revision by the President to Procedures Associated with the Killam Professors Policy (LR6)
SUBMITTED TO	Learning & Research Committee
MEETING DATE	November 20, 2024
SESSION CLASSIFICATION	Recommended session criteria from Board Meetings Policy: OPEN
REQUEST	For information only - No action requested
LEAD EXECUTIVE	Hubert Lai, K.C., University Counsel
SUPPORTED BY	Matthew Murray, Legal Counsel

PRIOR SUBMISSIONS

The subject matter of this submission has not previously been considered by the Learning & Research Committee.


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Office of the University Counsel has prepared this briefing pursuant to section 4.2 of the Regulatory Framework Policy (GA2) to report to the responsible Board committee, at its next regularly scheduled meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable, the exercise of the President's authority to amend Procedures.

Effective October 2, 2024, the President approved an amendment to section 2.1 of the Procedures associated with the Killam Professors Policy (LR6) to provide flexibility for the Chancellor. Prior to the amendment, the Advisory Committee was required to be chaired by the Chancellor or, if absent, by the Vice-President, Research and Innovation. With the amendment, the Vice-President, Research and Innovation may also chair the Advisory Committee if the Chancellor is unable to act or otherwise at the discretion of the Chancellor.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS (optional reading for Governors)

1. Blackline showing amendment made to the Procedures associated with the Killam Professors Policy (LR6)

 The University of British Columbia Board of Governors	Policy No.: LR6
Long Title: University Killam Professors	
Short Title: Killam Professors Policy	

Background & Purposes:

To give recognition to the most exceptional members of faculty who have distinguished themselves as scholars and have therefore received the highest acclaim from the academic community and the general public.

1. General

1.1 The designation “University Killam Professor” is conferred by the President on the recommendation of the Responsible Executive to recognize exceptional members of faculty who are extraordinary teachers and researchers, who are leaders in their academic fields, and who have received national and international recognition and prestige as a result of these characteristics.

1.2 The designation “University Killam Professor” is the highest honour that the University can confer on a member of faculty.



PROCEDURES ASSOCIATED WITH THE KILLAM PROFESSORS POLICY

Pursuant to the Regulatory Framework Policy, the President may approve Procedures or the amendment or repeal of Procedures. Such approvals must be reported at the next meeting of the UBC Board of Governors or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Capitalized terms used in these Procedures that are not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given to such terms in the accompanying Policy, being the Killam Professors Policy.

1. Nomination Requirements and Selection Criteria

- 1.1 A nomination should be directed to the Responsible Executive by six members of the University community which must include at least one student, one staff member, one faculty member, and one alumnus/a, indicating the extent of the nominee's acknowledgement by the University community as a person of substantial and widely recognized scholarly distinction. The nomination shall be accompanied by a letter supporting the nomination, a *curriculum vitae* as well as three arm's length, external referee letters in support of the nominee's suitability for the designation.
- 1.2 To be eligible to be nominated, a candidate must hold the rank of full professor at the University.
- 1.3 The nomination of an individual to receive the designation of "University Killam Professor" will be evaluated against criteria that demonstrate the characteristics of an exceptional professor worthy of this honour, and must demonstrate consistent excellence in teaching and research. The nomination will be evaluated against a broad set of criteria include the following:
 - 1.3.1 recognition in the academic and wider community as an extraordinary researcher whose accomplishments have made a major impact;
 - 1.3.2 recognition in the academic and wider community as an extraordinary teacher who encourages students to pursue excellence;
 - 1.3.3 demonstration of a superior record of attracting and supervising graduate students and/or postdoctoral fellows within the standards of the relevant discipline;
 - 1.3.4 demonstration of continuing commitment to student success through advising and mentoring inside and outside the classroom and/or laboratory/studio;
 - 1.3.5 achievement of national and international acclaim in the areas of teaching and/or research in the form of an award or recognition of high esteem; and

- 1.3.6 demonstration of continuing receipt of high degree of respect from students, fellow faculty members, and members of the University administration.

2. Advisory Committee

- 2.1 On receipt of a nomination of a candidate, the Responsible Executive shall seek the advice of a committee (the “Advisory Committee”) chaired by the Chancellor of the University or, if [the Chancellor is absent or unable to act, or otherwise at the discretion of the Chancellor,](#) the Vice -President, Research and Innovation, and composed of:
 - 2.1.1 the Chancellor of the University;
 - 2.1.2 the Provost and Vice-President, Academic (UBC Vancouver);
 - 2.1.3 the Provost and Vice-President, Academic (UBC Okanagan);
 - 2.1.4 the Vice-President, Research and Innovation;
 - 2.1.5 the Chair of the Senior Appointments Committee;
 - 2.1.6 up to seven existing University Killam Professors selected by the Responsible Executive; and
 - 2.1.7 up to three additional individuals selected by the Responsible Executive as being individuals who would contribute significantly to the deliberations of the Advisory Committee, which shall include at least one undergraduate or graduate student representative.
- 2.2 All requirements regarding quorum and procedures and the manner in which meetings will be held will be determined by the chair of the Advisory Committee.
- 2.3 In determining which candidates to recommend to the Responsible Executive, the Advisory Committee will consider how the University Killam Professors reflect the balance and diversity of the University’s faculty members and their academic fields.
- 2.4 A positive recommendation made by the Advisory Committee to the Responsible Executive for the conferral of the designation of “University Killam Professor” will, on the recommendation of the Responsible Executive, be forwarded to the applicable Senate for information and to the President for approval.

3. Number of Awards

- 3.1 The University may confer the designation of “University Killam Professor” on up to six individuals in any given academic year, at the discretion of the President. The University reserves the right not to confer this designation every year.

- 3.2 At any given time, the number of University Killam Professors (not including University Killam Professors Emeriti) should not exceed two percent of those faculty members holding the rank of full professor at the University.
- 3.3 Upon receiving the designation, a University Killam Professor will continue to hold the designation for as long as he or she remains a tenured faculty member at the University, except in extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Responsible Executive.

4. Roles and Responsibilities of University Killam Professors

- 4.1 University Killam Professors are expected to contribute to the overall intellectual life of the University and to serve as academic ambassadors to the University's external community. While University Killam Professors are expected to continue to fulfill their roles as professors, at the discretion of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic (UBC Vancouver) and the Provost and Vice-President, Academic (UBC Okanagan), they may be granted a temporary reduction in teaching responsibility in order to facilitate leadership activities that they undertake. At the discretion of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic (Vancouver) and the Provost and Vice-President, Academic (UBC Okanagan), the University may also provide additional resources in order to enhance the capacity of University Killam Professors to play this leadership role.
- 4.2 Within one year after receiving the designation of "University Killam Professor", each University Killam Professor shall deliver a lecture to the University community (the "University Killam Professor Lecture") on a subject of his or her choice, though preferably on a subject that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries. The University Killam Professor Lectures will be recorded, published and made available to the University community and to the University's external community.
- 4.3 The University Killam Professors shall form a committee (the "Committee of University Killam Professors") that shall meet at least annually to consider and make recommendations to the Responsible Executive regarding matters of importance to the University including:
 - 4.3.1 the role University Killam Professors should play within the scholarly fabric of the University community and in relation to the University's external community;
 - 4.3.2 the standards to be upheld by University Killam Professors; and
 - 4.3.3 other issues directed to the attention of the University Killam Professors by the Responsible Executive.

5. University Killam Professors Emeriti

- 5.1 If a faculty member is a University Killam Professor at the time he or she retires, after retirement such individual will no longer be a University Killam Professor but will be entitled to refer to himself or herself as an "University Killam Professor Emeritus/a", subject to Senate policies applicable to emeritus status.