9.1.1 Acting Appointments

Formerly Known As Policy Number:
9.1.A

1. Acting Instructor

Acting Instructor appointments are generally for one year and are often part-time; no more than three consecutive years of appointment at full time are normally permitted. Individuals at this rank are not yet ready for candidacy for Assistant Professor or Assistant Professor (Subject to Ph.D.) positions. Generally, there is no expectation of a Stanford professorial appointment following an Acting Instructor appointment. Persons holding this title are not members of the Academic Council, the Medical Center Line, or the Academic Staff, nor do they accrue time toward tenure by length of service.

Persons holding this rank may have full charge and responsibility for a departmental course (e.g., one for undergraduate majors). They also may assist in planning and execution of graduate course or seminar.

2. Other Acting Titles

Acting Assistant Professor
Acting Associate Professor
Acting Professor

These acting appointments are generally for one year; no more than three consecutive years of appointment at full-time are normally permitted. Individuals holding these ranks are qualified for the rank of the appointment but hold neither academic positions to which they would be returning nor positions in business or industry which would continue during the Stanford appointment (though in the latter case an individual may be on leave from an industrial position for the duration of the Stanford appointment).

These acting titles are used when individuals are filling in and/or when departments are clarifying their program needs. Persons holding this title are not members of the Academic Council, the Medical Center Line, or the Academic Staff, nor do they accrue time toward tenure by length of service. In some cases, especially at the assistant professor level, the acting appointment is a “holding” position for a period of time during which the department engages in a more careful search; the individual holding the acting appointment may be a principal candidate in the search. However, in general and especially at the associate and full professor levels, the expectation is that the title will be used for appointments of individuals who will have a short-term, non-career association with the University.

Individuals holding these acting titles may teach graduate seminars and participate in (but not direct) graduate research.