

SOONER MAGAZINE

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Research Professorship

Establishment of the "Chair of Research Professor" in the Graduate College of the University by the Board of Regents is a most important forward step in the development of the University.

According to terms approved by the regents, the Chair of Research Professor carries with it a stipend of not less than \$5,000 a year for a ten-month period, and includes suitable research aid as approved by the president of the University. The research professor is primarily responsible to the dean of the Graduate College and the Graduate Council, although he may hold membership in an undergraduate department or an undergraduate division of the University.

It is provided that the research professor may be relieved completely, if it is considered wise, of all undergraduate instruction. Tenure of the research professor runs until he reaches the statutory retirement age established by the regents. Unanimous recommendation from the Graduate Council is required for appointment. Basis of selection includes distinguished contribution to knowledge, and a record of vigorous leadership in the professor's special field of learning.

In creating this type of professorship, the University has clearly recognized the importance of research, of creative investigation, as an integral part of the institution's functions.

A young and able faculty member will no longer have to turn his thoughts and talents to administrative work as the only route to professional and financial success on the University campus. The position of Research Professor gives faculty members another kind of goal to work toward—a goal which they have an opportunity to reach even though their work is concentrated upon teaching and research rather than administrative problems.

Administrative work is a highly important thing on a University campus, but many faculty members who are eminent as teachers and research men have no talent or interest in University administration. There have been occasions when men of this type have accepted administrative positions because of better financial prospects, with unhappy results all around.

Now, the faculty member can work toward administrative positions if his talents run in that direction; or he can work toward the Chair of Research Professor in his particular field of concentration if he prefers to concentrate his efforts in teaching and research.

Of course there will be many other constructive benefits from the new plan. It will be possible for the first time to give an able research man the time and the facilities to work steadily on the projects he is undertaking, instead of having a full-time teaching load and trying to do research at nights and on Sundays.

We can reasonably expect much more fruitful results from research on the campus when the new program is well launched.

The Cover

Happy about O. U.'s winning the 1943 Big Six Conference are football players Gale Fulghum (top) and Lee Kennon and Big Six queen Mildred Turner. Photo by Richard Meek.

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