

## EMERITUS STATUS

Emeritus status as a professor has traditionally been granted by American colleges and universities to faculty who have provided long service and are retiring with honor. The title has also been used to recognize ministers who have rendered honorable service. In the military, the equivalent action is an honorable discharge and the use by the individual of the highest rank achieved followed by "retired."

Emeritus status provides the faculty member with appropriate recognition from the university for long, honorable service. It denotes a continuing honorary affiliation with the university, and it allows the faculty member certain privileges among which, depending on the rank at retirement, is the use of the designation of *assistant*, *associate* or *professor emeritus* in association with the university's name on stationery and business cards.

Although Northern Illinois University has traditionally allowed retired tenured, ranked faculty to use the emeritus designation, there has, heretofore, been no policy or procedure established to officially grant emeritus status by the university. This oversight has been the source of discussion on campus, and, recently, a policy and procedures to officially grant emeritus status were approved by the University Council. The President was actively involved in this discussion and in drafting the statement, which, consistent with the powers delegated to the President by the Board, is presented here as an information item.

The attached statement about granting emeritus status is generally straightforward and requires little clarification or interpretation. The policy delegates to the Provost, who makes the final determination relative to emeritus status, the interpretation of good standing.

## **FACULTY EMERITUS STATUS**

The designation of Emeritus is routinely granted by the University and the Board of Trustees to tenured, ranked faculty members who retire from the university in good standing.\*

Additionally, in exceptional cases, Emeritus Status may be granted to other faculty members based on merit and a recommendation made to the President. Faculty who are granted Emeritus Status will retain their rank at the time of retirement followed by the designation "Emeritus" or "Emerita."

A list of the names of the tenured, ranked faculty who have retired during the fiscal year and the names of those tenured, ranked faculty who plan to retire before the beginning of the next academic year will be prepared by the Office of Human Resource Services each year prior to May 15 and forwarded to the Provost. The Provost will review the list to determine the standing of the faculty for Emeritus Status.

Those tenured, ranked faculty members name is presented to the Board of Trustees for Emeritus Status, the retired faculty member may officially use the Emeritus designation.

\*A retiring tenured, ranked faculty member is in good standing provided (a) any financial obligations to the university have been settled; (b) no termination proceeding has been initiated against the faculty member and remains pending at the time of retirement; and (c) the faculty member has not been discharged for cause.