

Department of Physics Policy on Adjunct Professorships

Role of Adjunct Faculty member in the Physics Department:

Adjunct faculty members are important to the educational enterprise of the University. They are specifically associated with the department for their work as teachers and researchers, and they typically bring a great deal of skill and professional experience into their work with the regular faculty and students. Their wide range of professional and life experiences makes a valuable contribution to the university environment.

Adjunct faculty come to the department under a wide variety of circumstances. They include individuals who have had extensive experience in a particular field or profession, but are not employed nor remunerated by the University. They are individuals who have a primary profession or employment outside the University, but who are sponsored and work closely with the regular faculty.

Qualifications:

The Department of Physics will consider individuals for the appointment of an Adjunct Professorship provided that:

- There is a member of the current faculty of the Department of Physics that will serve as a sponsor for the applicant;
- The applicant or sponsor provides the usual professional documentation including a written statement of purpose that explains the benefits to the applicant and to the Department of Physics.

To be considered for an Adjunct appointment there must be unique benefits for the Department or its students that are best achieved through an Adjunct position. The applicant must also meet the normal standards for appointment as a regular faculty member.

Appointment:

Applications shall be subject to a vote of the Physics faculty with majority approval required.

Appointments shall be for a period not longer than 5 years and may be renewed after an evaluation and vote by the faculty, and by mutual agreement.

In cases where the appointment is not renewed or reappointment is not desired, the appointment may be continued until all students being supervised graduate.

In exceptional circumstances the appointment can be terminated at any time by a majority vote of the faculty.

Rights and privileges:

Adjunct Professors will have the privilege to serve on graduate student M.S. and Ph.D. Degree committees. If they are a primary advisor for a student, the Adjunct Professor may serve as a co-major professor on the committee. In such cases another faculty member who is not an adjunct must also serve as a co-major professor.

Adjunct Professors who wish to supervise a student as co- Major Professor must obtain approval in advance from the Physics Graduate Oversight Committee, and the Head of Department. A written request, including a plan of study, an outline of the work to be performed, an approximate time-line, and a plan for financial support shall be submitted to the Graduate Oversight Committee. It is particularly important to include details of how the day-to-day supervision of the student will be accomplished, if the student will be off campus for extended periods, and the perceived role of the degree committee. Any significant changes in the original plans shall be submitted to the Graduate oversight committee for approval.

Adjunct faculty will have access to Departmental facilities, such as computer facilities, under the same terms and conditions that apply for regular faculty. Access to office or laboratory space, or specialized facilities will depend on the needs of the Adjunct's Department-related work, and be subject to the decision of the Department Head.

Adjunct faculty will be subject to all of the rules and guidelines of Purdue University and the College of Science regarding Adjunct faculty, and to other Department policies pertaining to the mentoring of graduate students.