May 12, 2008

DEANS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRS:

I am pleased to announce the establishment of the Promotion Award Program, which recognizes the achievement of a faculty member’s promotion. As you know, the promotion increment program, which provided a one-time increase to the faculty salary at the time of tenure, was discontinued earlier this year due, in part, to accommodate funding of the market adjustment plan. This new program will provide funds which can be used for research purposes at the time of promotion to both the Associate and Full Professor ranks.

Following are a fuller description of the award and the eligibility criteria.

Promotion Award

In recognition of the promotion to Associate Professor with tenure or to Full Professor of an incumbent faculty member, the University will provide a $10,000 research fund. The funds can be used for research purposes including, but not limited to, travel, attendance at conferences, support of graduate students, purchase of equipment, or compensation. Compensation may be paid in the form of additional summer compensation for research or for supplementation of a sabbatical leave when there is an insufficient number of sabbatical credits to take a fully paid sabbatical. Funds used for personal compensation, however, are fully taxable, whereas funds used to cover research expenses are not.

The funds will be allocated to the faculty member’s home department and any expenditure must be in compliance with University policy. The funds can be carried forward, but must be expended within 5 years of the effective date of the promotion. After 5 years or upon separation, whichever is earlier, unused funds will revert to the central campus.

Eligibility

This award will be effective with July 1, 2008, promotions and will be provided to those in the Professorial Series, the Professor of Clinical Optometry series, and the Cooperative Extension Specialist series. Those individuals who received a promotion increment while at the Associate rank are eligible to receive the promotion award upon promotion to Full.

Questions regarding the program can be directed to the Academic Personnel Office at APpolicy@berkeley.edu.

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Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
and Faculty Welfare