Date:  November 26, 2012  
From:  Wendy Hein  
Re:  Professor of Practice Rank

I’ve been doing some online research about the Professor of Practice Rank. Here are some things I’ve found:

Article from the AAUP (2004) about the PoP rank, it’s growth and use, and concerns about academic freedom. I was particularly interested in the mention of this rank having up to a 5-year appointment period.

Article from the Chronicle of Higher Education (2004) that discusses how different universities use PoP. Again a mention is made of multiple-year contracts. The examples in this article show PoP being a substitute for Instructor and Adjunct titles.

http://www.facultygovernance.gatech.edu/EB2006-%20011006-M-Attach4wp.htm
Proposal to create the PoP rank at Georgia Tech. They did not have promotable ranks and intend the position to be for those who have already had a distinguished professional career with 10 or more years of experience. Appendix A had some valuable information about the development of this rank.

Other common elements of PoP positions among universities:
- They are usually in technical, business, or artistic fields and they emphasize teaching (of students in degree programs) above all else.
- There are two predominate uses for the rank. In one type, the rank is promotable and centered on teaching undergraduates, much like an Instructor position. In the other, there is only one level and the wording suggests that it would be equal to “full.” It is used to hire those who have had a professional career for 10+ years and who have a national or international reputation in that field.
- They are paid near but not quite as much as regular faculty ranks
- They have at least an option of multi-year contracts, up to 10 years in length with 3-5 years being common. Sometimes there is a probationary period of annual contracts.
- They do not get sabbaticals, at least not automatically.
- They can serve in positions like Department Chair, but typically have less service opportunities that tenured faculty (can’t vote on tenure decisions or serve in governance roles for example.)
- Some universities limit the number or percentage of PoPs in each unit.

Notably, I can find no cases where PoP is used for Extension Positions. I have not searched every LGU faculty handbook, but Google searches and searches of job postings are turning up nothing. I have found a few universities that offer PoP as well as separate non-tenured Extension ranks. The more I read about the PoP, the less convinced I am that the rank fits Extension work.

The only place I found PoP connected to Extension was in a current job posting at our own university: https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp?postingId=307925
Maybe Extension admin is just covering all options, but it seems like this is jumping the gun.

- Wendy