



Office of the Vice President Research
and Innovation an Leas-Uachtaráin
Taighde agus Nuálaíochta

Maynooth University

International Visitor Programme

Version: 1

Effective Date: November 2023

Reviewed: Governing Authority

Next Review Date: November 2025

International Visitor Programme

The international visitor programme includes the [visiting distinguished scholar programme](#), which provides a process for arranging short visits to MU by scholars, and the distinguished international collaborator programme, which provides a process for longer term engagements with leading scholars.

Policy for the Appointment of Distinguished International Collaborators

Purpose and Aims

Maynooth University aims to bring internationally renowned scientists, scholars, writers, artists and thinkers to the campus for the purpose of strengthening our international networks, and enhancing and enriching the intellectual and scholarly environment of the University Community. These individuals will be conferred with the title ‘Distinguished Professor.’

This honour will be awarded to a distinguished individual, of professorial standing, or to a person who has obtained clearly recognised and verifiable national and/or international eminence and leadership in their field of expertise or profession.

Typically, visiting professors will engage in activities that contribute to the university community, including participating in or leading events, seminars, workshops or lectures for faculty and graduate students, providing mentorship, as well as developing research collaborations and projects as fully involved researchers.

Terms and Conditions

Distinguished Professors are appointed for a specific purpose (not permanent appointment). The post may be paid or unpaid, consistent with public policy. Appointments will include specific deliverables and performance targets.

Appointment Process (Distinguished Professors):

Recommendations for an appointment can be made to the President. Typically a member of the University Executive Committee will sponsor the recommendation, following consultation with Department Heads, or Institute / Centre Directors and appropriate faculty members. The *Distinguished International Collaborator Board*¹ will be convened to consider each case and will make a recommendation to the President. Based on the outcome of this process, the University

¹ Membership of the Board

- *Chair: Vice President Research*
- *Dean of the Relevant Faculty*
- *One Professor from at Faculty at the grade of Professor A*
- *Vice-President Academic (or nominee)*

may appoint noted individuals as Distinguished Professors.

The recommendation to the committee should include:

1. Justification for the appointment with supporting documentation. This *may* be in the form of CV, letters of recommendations, publications and other evidence of distinction.
2. Planned activities (Public lectures, lectures/seminars for campus and community; consulting, professional society's relations, accreditation, faculty and graduate student development, etc.)
3. The alignment with the MU strategic plan, the benefits to Maynooth University and the outcomes expected of the appointment.
4. Timing of the proposed appointment and terms of appointment. Note that the supports provided to the visiting professor will be dependent on whether they are paid (including honoraria) or unpaid.

Positions for such appointments would be assigned campus-wide and therefore not be charged against any particular academic unit. The availability of positions will be dependent on available budget and will be linked to Maynooth University priorities². The intention is for all segments of the campus to share the benefits.

Final Approval: Governing Authority 9th November 2023

² The word priorities is used here to be inclusive of research, education, policy and engagement.