

**THE WILLIAM L.  
DUREN JR. '26  
PROFESSORSHIP  
PROGRAM**

NEWCOMB-  
TULANE  
COLLEGE

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Dear faculty colleagues,

Each year, Newcomb-Tulane College welcomes full-time faculty from liberal arts, science, and engineering disciplines to apply for **The William L. Duren '26 Professorship Program**, which supports faculty activities that enrich the scope of undergraduate education within the college. In 2018-19, the college will appoint two Duren professors, who will take on a critical leadership role in support of the College's efforts to strengthen the academic experience for undergraduate students.

Each Duren Professor will be provided with a \$5,000 stipend, plus up to \$5,000 in additional funding to support unique programming and/or to secure partial release from departmental teaching responsibilities. The terms of the program are described in detail in the following pages.

The program was established and endowed with a generous gift from the late William L. Duren, A&S '26, M.A. '28, Ph.D., LL.D. honoris causa '59, professor emeritus of mathematics and former dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Virginia. Over the past several years, it has allowed faculty in a variety of disciplines to enhance their undergraduate teaching in a number of creative ways.

I strongly encourage members of the faculty to consider applying for this program. The application deadline is **Friday, March 16, 2018**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Trina Beck at 504-314-2806 or [tbeck@tulane.edu](mailto:tbeck@tulane.edu).

Additional information, including detailed descriptions of previous Duren Professors' courses, is also available at [tulane.edu/college/programs/duren\\_program.cfm](http://tulane.edu/college/programs/duren_program.cfm). Many thanks.



**James M. MacLaren**

Dean of Newcomb-Tulane College

# OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Duren Professorship Program is to support faculty activities that enrich the scope of undergraduate education in Newcomb-Tulane College. The program should facilitate informal yet intellectually rewarding interactions between faculty and students, both in and out of the classroom.

Duren Professors are selected from the faculty in the liberal arts, sciences, and engineering on the basis of their commitment to undergraduate teaching and their innovative proposals. While the Duren program allows professors the freedom and resources to explore their personal research interests in greater depth, we are primarily concerned with providing the maximum educational benefit for the students.

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

Each year, two members of the faculty in the liberal arts, sciences, and engineering may serve as Duren Professors. The term of service is normally one year but it may be renewed. Duren Professors are selected by a committee consisting of the dean of Newcomb-Tulane College and other members of the college community. Each Duren Professor is provided with a \$5,000 stipend plus \$5,000 in funding, to be used as suggested below. In addition, there is a supplemental fund from which Duren Professors may draw to support other activities related to their tenure as Duren Professors.

Over the course of the academic year, Duren professors will teach at least one course that utilizes the resources provided by the Duren program; Duren courses may be offered in the fall and/or spring semester. A Duren course may be a regular course offering that offers supplemental programming, or a special topics course that falls outside the regular curriculum. In order to permit the latter option, Duren professors may use some of their funding to secure partial release from departmental teaching duties, if they so choose.

# ABOUT THE DUREN PROFESSORSHIP

## **Duren Professors may:**

- arrange for supplemental experiences beyond the classroom that extend and enrich the formal classroom experience: field work, a concert series, a lecture series, dinners with informal presentations by students in the class or visiting lecturers, travel to local archival collections or museums to consult primary materials, etc.;
- adopt a multidisciplinary approach, which may or may not involve team teaching;

- offer courses of a generalist rather than a highly discipline-specific type: for example, a general “modes of inquiry” approach or an approach that addresses fundamental, global questions across a range of disciplines;
- offer courses that demonstrate the applications and extensions of their previous research to new intellectual problems;
- offer courses that involve an unusual and distinctive pedagogy or an experiential component for which additional resources might be required; and so on.

Duren Professors are encouraged to offer courses that can be incorporated into regular departmental offerings so that they may fulfill major requirements.

The Duren Professorship offers faculty the opportunity to engage actively with Newcomb-Tulane College and its students during their tenure. To that end, Duren Professors are asked to serve on the Newcomb-Tulane College Grant Committee and to participate in student engagement activities run by the college; additional details will be provided in your appointment letter.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Prospective Duren Professors may submit a proposal via email to Assistant Dean Trina Beck at [tbeck@tulane.edu](mailto:tbeck@tulane.edu). The proposal should include the faculty member’s department, email address, mailing address, and telephone number. It should describe briefly but precisely what activities the professor intends to undertake as Duren Professor and, more importantly, how the proposed activities fulfill the special objectives of the Duren Professorship Program. A budget explaining how the \$5,000 in program funds will be used should also be included, again emphasizing how the expenditures fulfill the objectives of the program and facilitate worthwhile educational activity that would not otherwise be possible. **Proposals for the 2018-2019 academic year must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018.**

The prospective Duren Professor’s department chair is required to approve the professor’s participation in the program, to ensure that it is consistent with regular departmental activity.

The William L. Duren Jr. ‘26 Professorship Program is administered by the Newcomb-Tulane College Dean’s Office. Please contact Assistant Dean Trina Beck at 504-314-2806 or [tbeck@tulane.edu](mailto:tbeck@tulane.edu) with any questions.