



## LUND UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Law

Faculty Board

### **Guidelines for the appointment of associate professors at the Faculty of Law**

These guidelines were adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Law on 27 May 2020 and are valid from 27 May 2020. They replace the previous guidelines adopted 22 October 2014, reg. no J 2015/953.

#### **General information**

The Faculty of Law can appoint associate professors if it significantly benefits its research and education. The aim is to meet the University's need for qualified expertise. In order to be appointed associate professor, the applicant must meet high standards of research and teaching expertise. Applicants for associate professorships have no right to have their applications reviewed.

The title associate professor signifies a certain level of expertise. An appointment as associate professor does not entail any form of employment at Lund University.

A lecturer can only be appointed associate professor once at the Faculty of Law, and only in one subject. The subject must have been previously established by the board as one in which research studies can be conducted at the faculty.

Lecturers with the qualifications of an associate professor at the Faculty of Law are eligible to teach and assess students at all levels within the University, to serve as a principal supervisor for doctoral students and as a member of an examining committee at a thesis defence, to act as an external reviewer at a thesis defence or at a licentiate seminar, and to be consulted as an external expert in matters concerning academic appointments and promotions.

The Faculty of Law may essentially only consider applications for an appointment to associate professor from applicants who are employed as associate senior lecturer or permanently employed as senior lecturers at Lund University, and currently working at the Department of Law. Applications submitted by other applicants will only be processed if there are special grounds, in which case a decision must be taken defining the qualification requirements and assessment criteria that are to apply.

#### **Qualification requirements and assessment criteria**

A person is qualified to be appointed associate professor if he or she has obtained a PhD or acquired the equivalent research qualifications, and has attained a high level of research and teaching expertise, in accordance with these guidelines. The applicant must be able to document his or her expertise.

The *research expertise* requirement means that the applicant is to have deepened and broadened their research experience and subject expertise in addition to the requirements for obtaining a PhD. The research produced after the PhD is to demonstrate how the applicant has made significant contributions in terms of the extent and quality of their research, in relation to their doctoral thesis. Furthermore, the applicant must also have participated, since obtaining the PhD and to a significant degree, in international academic discussions through publication in international journals, written contributions and oral presentations at research conferences or the equivalent, to an extent that can reasonably be expected with regard to the particular circumstances of their subject. The assessment of the applicant's qualifications is to be based not only on their demonstrated skills; it is also essential that the applicant is able to present plans for the future as well as show progress with regard to their research. An account of awarded external research grants may also be of considerable importance.

The *teaching expertise* requirement means that the applicant is to have a broad teaching experience and good teaching abilities. The applicant must also show a good and documented ability to convey their subject knowledge and experience of teaching at different levels in higher education. The applicant should have considerable experience of, for example, supervising Bachelor's and Master's degree projects and, after obtaining their PhD, actively participating in PhD education.

### **Processing and assessment**

Applications for appointments as associate professor can be submitted throughout the year. The application is to be made to the Academic Appointments Board at the Faculty of Law and is to be submitted electronically to the person responsible for processing the application at the Faculty Office. Publications only available in paper form, which the applicant wishes to be assessed, must be submitted in two copies to the person responsible for processing the application at the Faculty Office, Box 207, 221 00 Lund.

In addition to the information about the applicant, the application is to include:

1. an account of the applicant's research and teaching expertise
2. a list of 10 publications that the applicant has submitted to demonstrate their research expertise
3. a list of the teaching qualifications the applicant would like to be considered in order to demonstrate their teaching expertise

The applicant is to explain why appointing them associate professor would be of benefit to research and education.

The application for appointment as associate professor will be processed and reviewed by the Academic Appointments Board at the Faculty of Law.

The matter will be decided after obtaining a written assessment performed by an external expert.

The professors of the Faculty Board will appoint the external expert/s, normally *one*. The expert is to be thoroughly familiar with the subject of the associate professorship in question, and is, as a rule, not to be currently employed by Lund

University. The statement by the external expert is to specify whether the application is approved or not.