

The University of Michigan Regents Communication

Item for Action: Approval of Non-tenure-track Clinical Appointment Sequence in the College of Business, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Subject: Non-tenure-track Clinical Appointment Sequence in the College of Business, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Background

The mission of the College of Business is to be the leader in providing quality undergraduate and graduate programs in an environment integrated with business practice, research, and continuing professional education, in close partnership with the business community. The overall goal is to provide a continuously improving educational and research environment in which faculty, administrators, students, and staff work together to educate our students to lead, to have impact, and to make significant contributions to their professions, industry, government, academia, and society. In the pursuit of this goal, it is imperative that the College establish and maintain close connections with the industries that most of its graduates ultimately serve.

The educational work of the College particularly demands that students have an opportunity to learn from leaders in the commercial and non-profit world of business and management, as well as from the tenured and tenure-track faculty who often interact with this world but whose primary identity is typically as an educator and researcher, and not as a practitioner. Leaders in business practice visit the college as speakers on a regular basis, but there is an occasional need and an opportunity to appoint such individuals to the faculty. They will offer substantial guidance for major research projects, can provide coaching to enhance students' educational experiences at the College, and may supply service to the student body through student advising, career counseling, networking, teaching relevant undergraduate and graduate classes, and/or assisting with internship location and placement. Such individuals will also enhance the outreach activities of the College through their connections to leading business organizations and senior management; they may help the fundraising functions of the College through their connections in the world of business practice; and they may enhance the overall reputation and visibility of the College among their external communities.

The Governing Faculty of the College of Business, in their meeting on February 27, 2026, approved appointing highly qualified, practicing business professionals to clinical faculty positions within COB. These positions will carry the internal working title of Professor of Business Practice

As of September 1, 2026, the college does not foresee utilizing these titles extensively (no more

than two concurrent positions) since the clinical track will only be used as a supplement to our current academic programs, will not be used to support research, and will only be filled with persons who have significant career experience.

Standards for appointment and reappointment to the Professor of Business Practice are detailed in the COB's Professor of Business Practice policy. Clinical track faculty are eligible to participate in faculty and discipline meetings and to vote as members of the governing faculty if permitted by the COB Bylaws (except on issues pertaining to promotion and tenure). Clinical track faculty are not eligible for sabbatical leave. In exceptional instances, clinical track faculty may be granted scholarly or professional leave (with or without salary) at the discretion and upon approval of the dean and the provost, and within constraints set by the Standard Practice Guide.

I am pleased to present this request for your approval.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabriella Scarlatta", written in a cursive style.

Gabriella Scarlatta, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

September 2026