Faculty should teach

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We hear a lot these days about the "impact and significance" of faculty endowments, and President Flawn tells us that a state university can't "maintain a distinguished faculty" unless such endowments supplement "state-appropriated funds" for the faculty's salaries.

Then how does a state university maintain a distinguished faculty for the required courses in English, which everyone tells us are in a dreadful crisis? Those courses are still largely taught by graduate students and lecturers, some of whom aren't even hired until after classes have begun, most of whom carry heavy work-loads at low salaries, without fringe benefits and with no hope of tenure.

If a cushy job is defined as one which leaves the professor "almost completely free for research" (*Texan*, June 13), how many holders of the University's hundreds of endowed positions are going to teach its thousands of undergraduates? How many freshmen ever even see a professor of English? If the University is the shape of things to come, then ordinary Texans had better get ready to be peasants.

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