

**University Policy Statement
California State University, Fullerton**

UPS 290.000

OUTSTANDING PROFESSOR AWARD

The selection of an Outstanding Professor at California State University, Fullerton, contributes to the fulfillment of our campus Mission and Goals in a number of ways. Recognizing highly superior faculty performance helps to strengthen institutional effectiveness, and our sense of community. Such recognition -- of a teacher-scholar -- works to ensure the preeminence of learning at our campus. Pursuant, therefore, to a fulfillment of Mission and Goals, California State University, Fullerton, establishes this program for selection and recognition of a yearly Outstanding Professor.

During each academic year, the Outstanding Professor Committee shall recommend a nominee to the President, who (if he/she concurs) will designate the Outstanding Professor for that year and will give the designation such publicity as he/she deems appropriate. The California State University, Fullerton, Outstanding Professor will also represent this campus at any system-wide recognitions for campus outstanding professors as may be provided for.

I. Composition and Selection of the Outstanding Professor Committee

A. The Committee shall consist of:

1. One professor from the College of the Arts
2. One professor from the College of Business Administration and Economics
3. One professor from the College of Health and Human Development
4. One professor from the College of Education
5. One professor from the College of Natural Science and Mathematics
6. One professor from the College of Engineering and Computer Science
7. One professor from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
8. One professor from the College of Communications
9. One past member of the Faculty Personnel Committee
10. Two undergraduate students
11. Two graduate students

- B. The members of the committee shall be named by the chair of the Academic Senate.
- C. The first seven members listed in A. shall be appointed for two-year terms in such a way that three or four of the terms expire each year. The other five members shall be appointed annually.
- D. The chair of the Academic Senate shall name a replacement from the same College or area for any member of the committee who is nominated for the award and does not decline the nomination.

II. Nomination Procedures

- A. Nominations for the Outstanding Professor Award may come from individual faculty members and from administrators who hold faculty status. Such nominations are to be documented by the nominators in line with the criteria listed in Section IV. below.
- B. Any member of the faculty may nominate a fellow faculty member by securing the signatures of four other faculty members.
- C. No person may make more than one nomination per year.
- D. A person nominated shall remain in nomination for three consecutive years, unless he/she received the University award or unless he/she declines to remain in nomination.

III. Format for Nomination

- A. The nomination takes the form of a simple letter naming the nominee signed by faculty members, accompanied by a full vita of the nominee, and adequate documentation to substantiate his/her outstanding qualifications for the award.
- B. Evidence in support of a nominee should include written statements from (a) faculty members, (b) administrators, (c) staff members, (d) students, (d) alumni, (f) off-campus experts in his/her field, and (g) anyone else truly qualified to support the nomination.

All materials must be contained within a single 4-inch 3-ring binder. Books may be represented by title pages and sample extracts (such as chapters and table of contents). Other bulky items, if they cannot fit within the binder, may be explicitly referenced in any suitable way, with an invitation to the committee to review them. The committee may request further items/information for its evaluation.

- C. The nominations shall be forwarded to the faculty member's department for review. The department review together with the nomination shall be forwarded to the committee for evaluation.

IV. Criteria for Evaluating Nominees

- A. A nominee is expected to have a record of superlative teaching. The documentation submitted in support of a nomination is required to contain written evaluations, from faculty and students, which evidence excellence in teaching.
- B. No amount of professional achievement as evidenced by research and creative scholarship, or service to the campus and community shall be a substitute for the basic requirement of excellence in teaching.
- C. A significant portion of the nominee's record of accomplishment shall have been established while a faculty member of this University.
- D. The nominee's services to the campus and the larger community should be evaluated to ascertain their relevance to the nominee's teaching, as well as their overall significance.
- E. Nominees for this award must be distinguished scholars in addition to being outstanding teachers. While on this campus, they should have contributed to the stature of the University and the statewide system. They should have earned national or international recognition by their scholarly achievements in research, publication, or creative endeavor.

V. Presentation Series

- A. The recipient of the Outstanding Professor Award shall be invited to make an all-University presentation of his/her choice in the spring semester of the year following his/her selection. To the extent possible, each of these presentations shall subsequently be published in an appropriate scholarly journal, in one of the campus publications, or in a special series.
- B. Arrangements for the Outstanding Professor Presentation Series shall be the responsibility of the Outstanding Professor Committee.

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