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.

Each academic year during spring semester, the Outstanding Professor Committee shall recommend the award recipient and forward his/her name 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 Mihaylo College of Business 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 Sciences 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 faculty members of the committee shall be named by the chair of the Academic Senate in consultation with Executive Committee.

C. The student members of the committee shall be named by the Associated Students, Inc.
D. The first eight members listed in A. shall be appointed for two-year terms in such a way that half of the terms expire each year. The other five members shall be appointed annually.

E. The chair of the Academic Senate, in consultation with Executive Committee, 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 two consecutive years with the ability to modify the application, unless he/she 1) received this university award; 2) unless he/she declines to remain in nomination; 3) is no longer employed by CSUF; or 4) is deceased.

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, (e) alumni, (f) off-campus experts in his/her field, and (g) anyone else truly qualified to support the nomination. Written statements should be dated within the previous 12 months of the initial submission.

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.
IV. Criteria for Evaluating Nominees

A. A nominee is expected to have a sustained 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. In addition to being outstanding teachers, nominees for this award must be distinguished in scholarship and/or creative activities. 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. Creative or scholarly work that involves students or informs teaching is highly valued.

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 academic 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. The Outstanding Professor Presentation Series shall be arranged through the Faculty Development Center.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 6, 2016
Supersedes: UPS290.000 dated 6-16-15
and ASD 15-34

Source: Outstanding Professor Committee