

Faculty Senate
Honorary Degree & Awards Committee
Thursday, September 06, 2012
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

In Attendance:

Richard Palmer, Darden Pyron, Kinsey Jones, Angie Ortega-Fredman, Lynne Miller, Lori Driver, Lillian Martinez-Bustos

Agenda:

I. Welcome

- a) Greetings to returning members, welcome incoming members and introductions.

II. Elections

- a) Darden Pyron, was re-elected as Committee Chair
- b) Lori Driver agreed to serve as Secretary

III. Action and Discussion

- a) Committee discussed and reviewed proposed deadline dates. It was suggested that the deadline close 2 weeks before applicant files are due. The Committee agrees to the dates proposed by Damaris:

Mid November – send out notices/ open nominations

February 1 – Nominations close

February 15 – Applications due

*March 29 – 10 am meeting to select winners * **Final meeting subject to change***

- b) Discussion led by Chair on the application process.
 - 1. Recommendation that CV's not be more than four pages due to the large number of applications submitted. It was noted that applicants should follow University guidelines.
 - 2. Due to the large number of files submitted it was suggested that the Committee split into two smaller working groups. Working in smaller groups allows to make a better case for individuals you may be impressed with, to make better justifications.
 - 3. Members were asked to think about an equitable way to divide the applications. One suggestion was that the group could look at smaller categories and the two smaller groups could break up the larger categories.
 - 4. Question asked if committee members could move applications from one category to another. Chair responded that while applications cannot be

moved from one category to another after submission, applicants could apply for more than one area.

c) Applications to Awards & Honorary Degrees

1. Discussion on two award categories, Excellence in Engagement and Excellence in Service. The current language in both categories is unclear. Chair recommends that the committee put forth a recommendation for clarification of the two awards. People are not applying for the Excellence in Engagement award due to confusion in the wording. Do we have leeway in not giving an award in one area but giving two in another? Committee agrees that the Office of Engagement should clarify wording of excellence in engagement.
2. Angie Ortega-Fredman volunteered to look at language in Excellence in Engagement and Excellence in Service awards to create something more distinct than what it currently is.
3. The Committee will monitor for one year the number of applicants for the Excellence in Engagement Award to see how it goes.
4. Discussion on Excellence in Advising and Excellence in Mentorship Awards. Language in both needs to be further clarified for graduate and undergraduate students. Should we merge these two awards? Motion put forth that the two awards should be combined; to be called Excellence in Mentorship with three awards in total; these changes need to be discussed with University administration.

IV. New Business

a) Nominations

1. A third party should nominate persons. Ultimately, anybody can submit a name. Nominations are per forma.
2. There should be three professional letters of support. Letters should be current and address the award. The letters should be substantive and not per forma.
3. Self-nominators would need three letters. Those that are nominated would need two more letters. Applicants would be given the option to self nominate or be nominated by someone.
4. HDAC does not make final decisions but makes recommendations to the Provost. Committee members can advocate for someone in their department who is applying for one of the awards.

The next meeting will be the third week on October – October 18th or October 25th – Damaris will send out the schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.