RESOLUTION ON REVISING THE CRITERIA FOR THE DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Background: In 2003, the Academic Senate passed AS-602-03/RP&D, Resolution on Establishing a Faculty Award to Recognize Distinguished Research, Creative Activity, and Professional Development at Cal Poly. The Award was administered by the Academic Senate Research and Professional Development Committee. In 2005, the Academic Senate passed AS-638-05, renaming the Award as the Distinguished Scholarship Award and renaming the committee the Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee. Committee membership parameters currently adhere to revisions found in AS-671-08, Resolution on Changes to the Bylaws of the Academic Senate.

WHEREAS, Cal Poly is an institution known for its high quality of undergraduate education, and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate defines scholarship in broad terms as the scholarships of discovery, application, integration and teaching/learning (AS-725-11); and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate of Cal Poly has established a “Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development Award” (AS-602-03/RP&D); and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate resolved to establish a “Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development Awards Committee” to conduct the selection process and determine on an ongoing basis the policies and criteria to be used for selecting recipients of the award; and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate resolved to rename the “Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development Award” the “The Distinguished Scholarship Award” (AS-638-05); and

WHEREAS, The criteria for the Award have not been revised since the award’s original incarnation as the “Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development Award;” and

WHEREAS, The Award is designed to honor work of faculty conducted primarily at Cal Poly and celebrate both exemplary specific accomplishments and outstanding bodies of achievement; and
WHEREAS, The aforementioned “General Guidelines” and “Selection Criteria” of the
document will benefit from revision in light of AS-725-11, and can be more
succinctly stated in a streamlined revision titled “Award Description and
Criteria”; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the “General Guidelines” and “Selection Criteria” document appended
to AS-602-03/RP&D be revised in light of AS-725-11 with other updates in
the form of the attached streamlined document titled “Award Description
and Criteria”

Proposed by: Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee
Date: April 28, 2015
Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee
Revised award description and criteria
Approved by the Academic Senate on November 17, 2015

Award Description:
The Academic Senate Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee invites nominations for the Distinguished Scholarship Award. Each year, three awards are presented, each accompanied by a monetary prize.

These awards recognize achievement in scholarship and creative activity across the entire range of disciplines represented at Cal Poly. They honor work conducted primarily at Cal Poly and celebrate both exemplary specific accomplishments and outstanding bodies of achievement.

Faculty, students, staff, and alumni may submit nominations. Faculty members may nominate themselves. All nominations must be submitted using the online nomination form.

Eligibility:
All nominees must be current members of the Cal Poly faculty (i.e. members of collective bargaining unit 3) and must be active at Cal Poly for at least one quarter during the academic year in which they are nominated (for example, faculty who are on leave for an entire academic year will not be eligible for that year). Faculty members at all ranks are eligible as long as they have completed at least three years of full-time service or its equivalent at Cal Poly.

Selection Criteria:
Because this award is intended to recognize the full range of scholarship and creative activity possible at Cal Poly, the criteria listed below are necessarily incomplete. Moreover, it is expected that the work of any given nominee will meet some, but not necessarily all, of these criteria.

1. Quality of the creative or scholarly work as evidenced by any of the following:
   • Extensive peer recognition of the work as substantial, seminal, and scholarly
   • Contributions to improvements in the human condition and quality of life
   • Use of the ideas, techniques, and creative work by industry, practitioners, and others

2. Importance of the scholarly work to students as evidenced by any of the following:
   • Influence of the nominee’s scholarly and creative work on student learning
   • Effectiveness in furthering scholarship and creative activity among students
   • Quality and significance of related senior projects, theses, and other student work
   • Influence of the work on curriculum improvement and enhanced student learning experiences

3. Importance of the scholarly work to Cal Poly as evidenced by any of the following:
   • Enhancement of the reputation of Cal Poly or its academic units
   • Significance of grants and contracts received
   • Mentoring and facilitating the professional development of other faculty and staff
   • Recognition from industry, professional and academic organizations, and other institutions
Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee:
The Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee includes at least one voting General Faculty from each College and from Professional Consultative Services. General Faculty representatives should include former recipients of the Distinguished Scholarship Award. *Ex officio* members consist of a representative appointed by the Provost from the Office of Research and two ASI representatives – one undergraduate and one graduate student. The *ex officio* members are voting members, as per VIII.B. of the Bylaws of the Academic Senate.
To:              Gary Laver
From:           Jeffrey D. Armstrong
                President
Date:           March 4, 2016
Copies:         K. Enz Finken
                D. Choi

Subject:        Response to Academic Senate Resolution AS-808-15
                Resolution on Revising the Criteria for the Distinguished Scholarship Awards

This memo acknowledges receipt and approval of the above-entitled Academic Senate Resolution AS-808-15.

Please express my appreciation to the Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee members for their attention to this important matter.