

Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee

2019-2020 Annual Report

DATE: July 15, 2020
TO: Executive Committee, Faculty Senate, Oregon State University
FROM: Chong Fang, Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee Chair
SUBJECT: 2019-2020 Annual Report for Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee

Committee Members

Chong Fang, Chair '20	Chemistry, College of Science
Juyun Lim '20	Food Science & Technology, College of Agricultural Sciences
Cindy Alexis '21	Office of Budget & Fiscal Planning
Stacey Smith '21	History, College of Liberal Arts
Nelson Sigrah '22	College of Public Health and Human Sciences
TBA '23	
TBA – Student Member	

Executive Committee Liaison: Erika McCalpine, Business Administration, OSU-Cascades

The members of the 2019-2020 Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee were Chong Fang (Chair), Juyun Lim, Stacey Smith, Cindy Alexis and Nelson Sigrah. Chong Fang and Juyun Lim will leave the committee in 2020. Stacey Smith, Cindy Alexis and Nelson Sigrah are expected to continue to serve on the committee for the coming academic year. Therefore, the priority will be the identification of *three* faculty and staff members, plus *one* student member (ideally), to fill the current Committee vacancies. A new Chair should be selected from the existing Committee members and, for continuity of service and institutional memory, a co-chair should be simultaneously selected to share the committee leadership and responsibilities in the coming year.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, the Committee evaluated 22 nominations (including 2 teams for the “Student Learning and Success Teamwork Award”) for 10 awards. This number appears substantially lower than the 38 received (including 2 teams) for 16 awards in the 2018-2019 academic year. The severe disruptions by the COVID-19 pandemic since late March 2020 was the main factor, which delayed the announcement of awards and timelines from the Provost’s Office (determining for which awards funding was available) till May 2020. This was also the first year that the award nominations went totally online. While answering various faculty inquiries regarding the nomination process from March to June 2020, Chong Fang and Vickie Nunnemaker communicated via e-mails in May 2020 to set up the FRAC review meeting for these annual university awards. The formal review process started in July 2020 with all the materials assembled by the Faculty Senate Office for the Committee to review. The virtual (Zoom) meeting occurred on July 24, 2020 when Chong Fang, Stacey Smith, Nelson Sigrah, Erika McCalpine (non-voting, observer), and Vickie Nunnemaker (non-voting) participated, with additional review results and candidate ranking sheet provided by Juyun Lim before the meeting. The Committee discussed cases and reached consensus on the recommendations for all the award recipients. Notably, the significant disruptions caused by COVID-19 will likely not occur in the 2020-2021 academic year since the typical nomination processes will start in February-March 2021. Therefore, a larger number of nominations is expected, even with the transition to a purely electronic nomination process. A timely announcement of university awards with clear submission

guidelines with deadlines will be appreciated by nominators, nominees, faculty and staff, letter writers and members of the Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee. Outside reviewers, if deemed necessary by the award guidelines, should be contacted to help with the selection of certain awardees.

In January 2020, the Committee also reviewed and approved an Honorary Doctorate for Dr. Edward J. Ray as the 2020 OSU Commencement Speaker. Unfortunately, the originally rescheduled Commencement in Fall 2020 was eventually cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, President Emeritus Ed Ray will provide the 2021 Corvallis OSU Commencement address as was planned for the 2020 event.

Moving forward, the Faculty Recognition and Awards will continue to recruit new members and fulfill its important mission in formulating policies, soliciting and reviewing materials concerning the recognition of outstanding persons at OSU. *We also thank the Special Assistant to the Faculty Senate President, Vickie Nunnemaker, for her insights, expertise and support!*

Chong Fang, Ph.D.
Oregon State University
Summer 2020