

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE

AEC NOVEMBER 2025 MINUTES

DATE: 11/18/2025

LOCATION: Zoom

CO-CHAIRS: Dr. Sean Bonness and Kristine P. Aslanyan

Present: Sean Bonnes, Kristine P. Aslanyan, Debra Johnson, Cindy Hall, Eric Calderon, David Betancourt, Angela Williams, Maria Gurrola, Mark Abbruzzese, Trisha Kozlowski, Janet Ramirez-Han

Guest: Dr. Etelvina Jurado

Absent: Araf Rahman, Stephanie Minami,

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Minutes and Approval
 - a. Janet moved to approve, and Eric seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve.

2. Academic Excellence Awards calendar
 - a. Tuesday, August 19, 11 am Zoom
 - b. Tuesday, September 16, 11 am, Zoom
 - a. Invitations to AEA: College Board Members, Cerritos Foundation, Administrators,
 - c. Tuesday, October 21, 11 am, Zoom
 - d. Tuesday, November 18, 11 am, Zoom
 - e. December:
 - a. Remind A&R of the data request for January 2026.
 - b. Division Reps to announce the upcoming nomination period at Division Meetings.
 - f. Tuesday, January 20, 11 am, Zoom
 - a. First week of January:
 1. Submit a request to A&R/IT for the candidate list: 01/05/26
 2. Upload candidate list to TEAMS for Reps and Deans: 01/07/26
 3. Make nomination forms available on TEAMS: 01/12/26
 4. AEC sends campus-wide email about nominations: 01/14/25
 5. Reps remind faculty during Division Meetings.
 - g. **Thursday, February 5, NOMINATION FORMS ARE DUE!**

- h. Tuesday, February 17, 11 am, Zoom
 - a. Reps and AEC Chairs to check the eligibility for accuracy
 - b. Send out invitations to the candidates.
 - i. **Tuesday, March 10, 11 am photo reception**
 - j. Tuesday, March 31, 11 am, in-person (instead of March 17, Spring Break)
 - k. **Thursday, April 16, 7 pm, Academic Excellence Awards Ceremony**
 - l. Tuesday, April 21, 11 am, Zoom
- 3. Nominations Reader(s)
 - a. Committee recommended to have Terrance Mullins, Dr. Stephanie Rodriguez, and Dr. Etelvina Jurado to be readers
 - b. Invitations will be sent out to the potential readers to inquire about their availability.
 - a. David suggested the following wording: I am reaching out to you today on behalf of the Academic Excellence Committee. We discussed the assignment of readers in the ceremony. We have a slate and are now checking availability before making final decisions. Are you available to be a reader (student names and narratives) at the academic excellence awards being held Thursday, April 16, 7pm?
- 4. Scholarship Awards
 - a. Eric is checking the AEA Scholarship accounts for available funds, confirming if they are endowments or annual donations. Based on this information, the AEC will determine which scholarships are available to students.
- 5. Updates from the floor