

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS

Minutes

11 a.m., Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Zoom

Call to Order: 11:05 a.m.

Quorum Met: Yes

Facilitator: Chad Greene

Members Present:

Sherryl Carter, ACCME – Adult Education
Michelle Kim, Liberal Arts
Paula Pereira, Library
Rossi Petrova, Technology
Sarah Pirtle, CSEA – Media Services
Veronica Sanchez, Humanities and Social Sciences
Pamela Sepulveda, ACCME – Falcon’s Nest
Wendy Thomas, Confidential – President’s Office

Members Absent:

Robert Campolo, Fine Arts and Communications
Anne Contreras, Health Occupations
Berenice Gallardo, Counseling
Kari Hemmerling, Kinesiology
Dahlene Holliness, Student Accessibility Services
Renee Le Fevrier, ASCC
Peter Moloney, Business Education
Phuong Nguyen, Science, Engineering, and Mathematics

1. Approving: Minutes from December 17 Professional Relations Committee Meeting

a. Michelle Kim made a motion to approve the minutes from the committee’s meeting on December 17, which was seconded by Wendy Thomas. The minutes were approved.

2. Reviewing: Timeline for Our Review of Nominations for Outstanding Faculty Awards

a. The members of the Professional Relations Committee refreshed their memories of the traditional timeline for the review of the nominations for the Outstanding Faculty Awards:

i. January: Committee members discuss nominations and rank finalists for awards

ii. February: Committee members cast final votes for award winners, including one Most Outstanding Faculty, up to ten full-time Outstanding Faculty, and up to ten part-time Outstanding Faculty; chair presents information on award winners to president of the Faculty Senate

iii. March: Committee members work on logistics associated with awards ceremony

iv. April: Outstanding Faculty Awards are presented to winners at ceremony

3. Discussing: Our Preliminary Rankings of the Nominees for the 2023-2024 Outstanding Faculty Awards

a. Based on the top-ten lists that Professional Relations Committee members submitted through the online form created by committee member Pamela Sepulveda, they analyzed the preliminary rankings of both the full-time nominees and the part-time nominees for the 2024-2025 Outstanding Faculty Awards.

b. A suggestion from the past co-chairs of the committee, Lydia Cosio and Clara Ross-Jones, that we took into consideration last year was to see if there seemed to be a natural “cut-off” point in the rankings. Just because the committee can present one Most Outstanding Faculty Award, up to ten Outstanding Faculty Awards to full-time faculty, and up to ten Outstanding Faculty Awards to part-time faculty, that does not mean it has to give out the maximum number of twenty-one. With that in mind, the committee members looked to see if there were natural “cut-off” points in the rankings for either full-timers or part-timers. They also requested that, for their February meeting, the data be visualized in the form of bar graphs.

c. During the 2023-2024 academic year, the committee discussed if there should be a policy about repeat winners of the awards. Ultimately, we reached a consensus that there did not need to be such a policy for 2023-2024 because the Outstanding Faculty Awards had not been presented since 2019-2020.

d. After revisiting this discussion for the 2024-2025 academic year, the committee came to the consensus that its first priority would be to recognize faculty members who had not won awards last year. However, they agreed faculty members could win two years in a row in exceptional circumstances.

e. The committee members requested that Greene compile a list of the winners for the last three times the Outstanding Faculty Awards were presented (in 2023-2024, in 2019-2020, and in 2018-2019), so they could see if any of this year’s nominees would be repeat winners.

4. Deciding: Our Next Steps

a. The committee decided not to make any decisions about award winners on January 21, but – as scheduled in the traditional timeline – to instead select them on February 18.

5. Soliciting: Items from the Floor

a. There were no items from the floor.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:55 a.m.