

**Humboldt State University
University Senate**

Resolution on Faculty Awards Committee Description in Faculty Handbook

#15-13/14-FAC – November 12, 2013 – First Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University approves the below changes to the "Faculty Awards Committee" description found in the *HSU Faculty Handbook*, Section 800, "Committees, Councils, Associations and Boards:"

FACULTY AWARDS COMMITTEE

Duties:

The committee ~~is appointed to select nominees~~ reviews applications for the following HSU awards: Excellence in Teaching, Scholar of the Year, Outstanding Service Award, and Outstanding Professor. The Committee will select at most one awardee in each category. Given the pool of nominees, the Committee may vote to forego a selection in a given category. The Committee shall make its decisions based on a simple majority vote. When appropriate, the Faculty Awards Committee may encourage nominees to resubmit their materials the following year.

The committee reports its selections to the University ~~Academic Senate~~ at the last meeting in February. its nominations during the Senate's first March meeting of the academic year in which the awards are to be presented. Upon receiving the nominations recommendations of the Faculty Awards Committee, the ~~Academic~~ University Senate ratifies the awards by a vote of two-thirds of those present and forwards its recommendation to the President. ~~for conferral on behalf of the university~~

Linked Responsibilities of Awardees and Other Offices:

~~On behalf of the university, The President confers awards honored in a ceremony open to the public~~ announces the recipients to the campus community. Awardees are recognized at the HSU Honors Dinner in April. Recipients of the awards will have the opportunity to present a public lecture, or performance. Each may also suggest a different venue for engaging with the campus community. ~~and~~ The awards carry stipends in amounts determined by the Office of the President. ~~from the Humboldt State University Foundation and the Division of Academic Affairs. (Committee description revised by Academic Senate Resolution #16-08/09-FA (Revised)~~

~~Co-Chair:~~ The Committee shall select its chair from its membership. The University President or designee, and the most recent recipient of the Outstanding Professor Award, or in the absence of such a recipient, the more highly ranked or experienced recipient of the Excellence in Teaching or Scholar of the Year Awards.

Type: Ad Hoc Committee of the University Senate

Meetings: Two to three times ~~per year~~ in February.

Membership: Five members of the faculty (three of whom are previous recipients of one of the awards) appointed for one-year terms by the Senate Appointments and Elections Committee and one non-voting student appointed by the Associated Students. ~~In addition to the co-chairs, three members of the teaching faculty (two of whom are previous recipients of the Outstanding Professor Award) appointed for one-year terms by the Senate Appointments Committee, and one student appointed by the Associated Students~~

Rationale:

Duties & Membership - The awards committee requested that we make formal provision to allow “not” making an award in a given year. In addition, the committee suggested including a provision of a decision rule (i.e. “simple majority vote”) to guide the committee through difficult decision situations. Linked to these difficult decisions, past committee experience suggests that an uneven number of committee members is important in situations where a committee vote is required to move forward. As student participation has been unreliable, including “non-voting” student membership addresses uneven membership, as well as retains potential for student input when Associated Students (AS) is able to identify a student member. This provision also addresses concerns raised by AS when removing student membership was discussed. Also regarding membership, it has sometimes been difficult to identify faculty members to serve. The changes allow more flexibility in faculty membership. Given the committee makes its recommendations to the President via the University Senate, the committee should not include a presidential designee. Other changes reflect most recent practices and titles.

Linked Responsibilities of Other Offices - Broadens venues and modes for sharing with campus community beyond the traditional public lecture/performance.

University Senate: