

Annual Report: Academic Year 2007-08 Davis Division: Academic Senate

Committee on Public Service

Total Meetings: 2	Meeting frequency: as needed; UCDE proposals reviewed electronically	Average hours of committee work each week: 4
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Total UCDE Proposals Reviewed: 4 (See below.)	Total reviewed items deferred from the previous year: None	Total items deferred to the coming academic year: 1 (DSPSA Luncheon)
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Listing of bylaw changes proposed:

Allowing for more than four Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award recipients in a given year.

Listing of committee policies established or revised:

Issues considered by the committee:

The Committee reviewed and selected the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service recipients, and reviewed four UCD Extension programs.

Recommended procedural or policy changes for the coming year: None.

Committee's narrative:

The 2007-08 academic year began with a turnover of the Public Service Committee Chair. The Representative Assembly approved Chair, Paul Heckman, accepted an administrative appointment to Associate Dean in the School of Education, and this necessitated the search for and approval of a replacement. On December 14, 2007, two months into the academic year, Professor John Largier was formally approved by the Representative Assembly and appointed as the 2007-08 PSC Chair.

Because of the turnover of the PSC Chair, formal committee work did not begin until December 18, 2007, and the Call for Nominations for the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award did not go out until January 7, 2008. Although the award selection process timeline was in effect three months behind schedule, the process was accelerated and brought current by April, 2008, in time to have the May luncheon that honors the recipients of the award.

The Public Service Committee, reviewed eight nominations for the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award (DSPSA), selected five finalists for further review and selected two recipients for 2007-2008 award: Alan Brownstein, Professor at the Law School; and Richard Howitt, Chair and Professor at the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. The following public areas of recognition will be updated with the DSPSA recipients' information: the DSPSA color brochure, the DSPSA website ([click here](#)), and the DSPSA list at the Walter A. Buehler Alumni & Visitors Center.

The selected award recipients were submitted and approved at the April 14, 2008, meeting of the Representative Assembly. Unfortunately, the May luncheon in honor of the recipients had to be

postponed until October, 2008, due to scheduling conflicts on the calendars of the Chancellor and each of the recipients. The June 13, 2008, publication of Dateline announced the recipients publicly. October 23, 2008, came to be considered the best suggested date for the DSPSA luncheon, and the International House Community Room came to be considered the best venue.

At the time of the selection of the recipients, the committee considered giving the DSPSA to each of the five finalists. To move forward in this regard, the committee requested that its charge to "select up to four members of the faculty to receive" the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award be changed. L. Jay Helms, Chair of the Committee on Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction (CERJ), informed the PSC Chair, John Largier, that the PSC was bound "to select 'up to four' awardees" by Davis Division Bylaw 88(B)(2)(c). Further, "while CERJ has the authority to 'interpret' the Bylaws under Davis Division Bylaw 71, it has no authority to provide 'waivers' or 'exceptions.'" Finally, L. Jay Helms noted that "the Representative Assembly can amend a Bylaw. But this requires advance notice in a meeting call and a 2/3 vote," and "an amendment couldn't be made effective in time for this year's awards."

During the voting stage of the selection process the voting procedures were called into question. L. Jay Helms, Chair of the Committee on Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction, answered by clearly stating that "voting is limited to members of the Academic Senate (Davis Division Bylaw 28E) who are not Associated Deans or above (Davis Division Bylaw 28C). In the case of [the] Public Service [Committee] this means that only the five appointed Academic Senate members can vote."

The Committee electronically reviewed and approved four proposals for UCD Extension (UCDE) Certificate Programs: Creative Writing, Health Informatics, Green Building and Renewable Energy, and Cross-cultural Languages and Academic Development (CLAD) Through California Teachers of English Learners (CTEL). Approval letters were prepared and sent to Committee Chair Largier on July 31, 2008. Their return is expected in the near future. During the review process of the Health Informatics proposal, it was decided that a component of the proposal should be removed and the proposal re-written and resubmitted at a later date.

Besides the DSPSA nominations, the following topics were discussed at the two committee meetings: vision, purview and purpose of the committee; increasing the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award stipend using the gifted funds from Professor Emeritus Schutz and from Professor Emeritus Cahill; content and presentation of award nominee nominations; expanding and enhancing the practice of scholarly public service at UC Davis; increasing the emphasis on outreach into and engagement of the outside community and the acknowledgement of such work in faculty performance evaluation and rewards; service leave for public service which includes release from teaching and research responsibilities; and similar distinguished scholarly awards for junior faculty, including graduate students.

Respectfully submitted,

John Largier, Chair
Rachael Goodhue
Carlton Larson
Norman Matloff
Cynthia Passmore
Michael George, Academic Federation Representative
Nicelma King, Academic Federation Representative
Joyce Gutstein, ex-officio
Bernd Hamann, ex-officio
William Lacy, ex-officio
Dennis Pendleton, ex-officio

Bryan Rodman, Committee Resource Analyst