

Annual Report: Academic Year 2008-09 Davis Division: Academic Senate

Committee on Public Service

Total Meetings: 3	Meeting frequency: as needed; UCDE proposals reviewed electronically	Average hours of committee work each week: 4
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Total UCDE Proposals Reviewed: 2 (See below.)	Total reviewed items deferred from the previous year: None	Total items deferred to the coming academic year: 2
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Listing of bylaw changes proposed:

Change bylaw 88 so that the Director of the Public Service Research Program is no longer designated as an ex-officio member of the committee. The change would reflect the current status of the Public Service Research Program. The committee considers that it would be more appropriate to have the position rotate among outreach/public service units.

Listing of committee policies established or revised:

Issues considered by the committee: Proper procedure for committee sign-off on UCDE proposals; voting privileges of the diverse members of the committee; advisory roles of committee members; the composition of the committee membership; the method of committee review and comment on Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award nominations and UCDE proposals; the criteria to be used when selecting DSPSA recipients; the expansion and enhancing of awareness of public service performed by faculty and UC Davis; the combining of the presentation of Academic Senate and Academic Federation awards into a single event; and increasing the DSPSA honorarium.

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

Committee's narrative:

During the 2008-09 academic year, the Public Service Committee, reviewed nine nominations for the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award (DSPSA), selected four finalists for further review and dispensed three awards. The committee succeeded in submitting for approval by the Representative Assembly, prior to the assembly's February 24, 2009, meeting, the names of those whom it selected as award recipients. The April 10, 2009, publication of Dateline announced the recipients. Gail Goodman, in the Department of Psychology, and Marc Schenker, in the Department of Health Sciences: MED, each received an award. Monique Borgerhoff Mulder, in the Department of Anthropology, and Timothy Caro, in the Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology Department, shared the third award. The recipients were publically recognized in the Academic Senate and Academic Federation University Awards brochure, and they will be publically recognized on the DSPSA website ([click here](#)) and on the DSPSA list at the Walter A. Buehler Alumni & Visitors Center.

One nominee was disqualified as a past recipient of the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award. The nominee's nominator was notified by email and the following text from the Call for Nominations for the 2008-09 academic year was cited in the email: "All tenured members of the

Academic Senate ..., provided they have not previously won the award, are eligible for nomination by other members of the Academic Senate.”

As regards the selection criteria for the DSPSA, after considerable discussion, the committee agreed that the public service contributions of Scholarly Public Service awardees should show a strong connection to their scholarly activities. The committee considers that significant *pro bono* work is more in the spirit of scholarly public service than activities for which there is financial remuneration, although this should not be interpreted to exclude remunerated contributions from consideration.

During the voting stage of the selection process, the voting privilege was revisited. George Matthey, Chair of the Committee on Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction, was asked for guidance, and he provided a definitive explanation of the Academic Senate voting privilege and the role of ex-officio members in the process.

The proposed bylaw change referenced on the first page of this report centered around ex-officio member Joyce Gutstein’s suggestion that the position she has held as Director of the Public Service Research Program of the John Muir Institute of the Environment may no longer be appropriate for permanent ex-officio status on the committee. The Public Service Research Program had been an independent unit, but it is now a program within the John Muir Institute of the Environment. Because comparable positions exist in other units on campus, it seems reasonable to rotate this ex-officio position among them. This will require a bylaw revision. The committee expects to propose such a revision next year.

The committee conducted reviews and provided comment on UCDE proposals for two new programs. A revised proposal for a Health Informatics program was recommended for approval, with reservations. A proposal for a certificate program in Autism Spectrum Disorders was endorsed.

The committee also responded in a timely manner to a Systemwide request regarding remote/online course offerings and policies.

The following topics were also discussed over the course of the three committee meetings: increasing the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award honorarium using the gifted funds for this purpose; capitalizing on DSPSA recipients’ ability to give presentations at spring talks, seminars, fund raising events, UC Foundations, alumni centers, etc.; and increasing the number of Academic Senate members on the committee and reducing the number of ex-officio members. Representation from ORU’s, Cooperative Extension and other centers and programs was considered, too.

For 2008-09, the DSPSA honorarium was increased to \$500.

Respectfully submitted,

Vito Polito, Chair
Rachael Goodhue
Carlton Larson
Norman Matloff
Cynthia Passmore
Michele Fortes, Academic Federation Representative
Janis Williamson, Academic Federation Representative
Joyce Gutstein, ex-officio
Bernd Hamann, ex-officio
William Lacy, ex-officio
Dennis Pendleton, ex-officio
Bryan Rodman, Committee Resource Analyst