

November 03, 2022

## **MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

**RE:** Nominations for the 2022-23 Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award

Please consider nominating an individual or team for the Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award. The Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award is presented to at most four individuals or teams annually in recognition of significant contributions to public service globally, in the US and other countries, states, or at a local level that fulfill the University of California's mission of excellence in public service.

The Davis Division of the Academic Senate invites nominations for the 2022-23 Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award. Eligible nominees include all tenured members of the Academic Senate at the level of Associate Professor or higher who have not previously won the award (including Professors-in-Residence, Professors of Clinical (Specialty), and Lecturers with Security of Employment). Nominees should demonstrate excellence and dedication to creating impact. The committee recognizes that there are diverse ways to contribute to our society, and that different faculty members have different types of opportunities and support for public service. Thus, we seek diverse nominations; from the faculty members who spend significant personal time creating and implementing public service activities, to those who might have public service as "part of their job", but whose programs demonstrate excellence and significant impact beyond the normal expectations of their day to day job. We will also consider nominations for a team of faculty, recognizing that some exceptional contributions to public service are collaborative efforts, with each team member contributing exceptional effort. Nominated teams must have at least one member that meets eligibility criteria listed above (e.g. Academic Senate member of at least the Associate rank), but can include assistant professors, graduate students, community groups, and other members.

### ***Definition of Distinguished Scholarly Public Service***

Scholarly public service is an organized activity that extends expertise in teaching, research, or professional competence beyond the university campus into public arenas. For the purposes of this award, distinguished scholarly public service is the unpaid, focused, and sustained extension of disciplinary or technical expertise to the public and non-profit sector. This may be a discretionary activity, or excellence demonstrated beyond the faculty's normal job expectations. For this award, public service cannot have resulted in significant monetary gain (private consulting), cannot have been performed as a private citizen (membership in local service clubs), and cannot have been as an elected public official. The nominee's public service while employed elsewhere will be considered, but the primary focus will be on public service while a faculty member at UC Davis.

There are diverse examples of public service, which include (but are not limited to):

- Testifying before international, federal, state, or local legislative, executive, or judicial hearings, meetings, boards or commissions
- Consultations, advice, and recommendations to government boards, commissions, or agencies
- Membership on boards, commissions, or special committees of international, federal, state, tribal or local bodies
- Research for or collaboration with public agencies, boards, commissions, task forces, or committees

- Service to community groups, nonprofit organizations, and the general public in meetings, workshops, and conferences, including presentations to these groups or through the media
- Development and dissemination of information of state, national, or international importance through the production of non-profit documentary videos or film
- Creation or leadership of initiatives that address a public need.
- The development of mutually beneficial partnerships with community members, locally, regionally, nationally and/or internationally, for the purpose of reciprocal exchanges in ways that enrich research, creative activities, teaching and learning, and contribute to the public good.

*Examples of recent awardee activities can be found on page 4 of this call*

Department chairs and chief administrative officers can often supply information about a nominee's public service record.

### ***Nomination Package Requirements***

Nomination packages must be submitted as a single PDF and include:

1. Nomination form (download [here](#))
  - For team nominations – use this form for nominator information, and attach a separate list of all the information requested on the nominee part of the form for all team members
2. Nomination letter (3 pages maximum): Nominees are considered individuals or teams  
The nomination letter should provide a comprehensive summary of: (1) the nominee's qualities and accomplishments, (2) qualities that set the nominee apart from other faculty, (3) the characteristics of the service that demonstrate the nominee's expertise, and (4) particularly focus on the scope and impact of the public service efforts. For nominees with public service as part of their job expectations, the letter should address how the nominee goes beyond job responsibilities and expectations. In the case of a team nomination, the letter should focus on the team contributions). The committee will consider nominations with long-term as well as short-term distinguished scholarly public service. The nominator should ensure that documentary evidence of service is available upon request by the committee; however, this material should not be attached to the nomination.

The nomination letter should also address the following questions:

- How did this nominee demonstrate the extraordinary spirit of public service?
- Please identify those whom the nominee serves or helps
- Were the public service activities of this nominee compensated or part of a funded research project?
- Please provide an example of a specific situation or project that demonstrates how this nominee has met and surpassed the criteria for the award
- Other items to consider in evaluating the nominee for the award

All nominations must be peer submitted. Self-nominations **will not** be accepted.

**The deadline for nominations is Thursday, December 15, 2022.** Submit nomination packages as a single PDF to Davis Division Policy Analyst Elizabeth Ramirez at [lizramirez@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lizramirez@ucdavis.edu). Any questions can also be sent to Elizabeth.

Sincerely,



Oscar Jorda  
Chair, Committee on Public Service

## **Examples of public service activities of recent awardees:**

**2022 – Walter Leal:** Helped address the critical need for accurate and accessible COVID-19 information by conceptualizing, organizing, and moderating four COVID-19 symposia for the public. These events attracted over 6,000 viewers from 35 countries. Also dedicated much of his sabbatical time to developing valuable public resources, providing high-quality information during a time of rampant misinformation.

**2021 – Michal Kurlaender:** Worked closely with agencies and policy makers across the state to create an equitable educational system aligned with the state's economic needs. Impacted policy through her work with the California State Board of Education and the UC Provost's Advisory Council on Educational Equity. Rapidly pivoted her research to understand how the pandemic was impacting California students and helped guide policy and practice through her position on California's Higher Education Recovery with Equity Taskforce.

**2021 – Mark Lubell:** Actively participates in advisory groups, collaborates with community groups, and educates public policy makers on environmental issues. His work improved environmental decision making to reflect the latest science, shifting to a proactive approach, and addressing environmental injustices. Is involved in sea level rise planning, decision making the California Delta, resolving conflicts in the development of new groundwater agencies and policies, and addressing issues of nutrient management and water quality in California agriculture.

**2021-Richard Michelmore:** Founded and serves as the director of the UC Davis Genome Center, and led efforts to envision and actualize UC Davis's COVID-19 rapid testing. Led an ambitious and rapid mobilization in equipment procurement, regulatory approval, staffing, and training to enable rapid testing at a large scale. Testing was then extended to the City of Davis through the Healthy Davis Together program.

**2020- Tonya Fancher:** Addresses disparities in health care access, incorporating community engagement and service into training programs that address challenges unique to underserved communities. Directly provides healthcare in underserved communities through work in the Transcultural Wellness Center and oversees student-run clinics that provide free medical care to Sacramento's underserved populations. Also developed innovative programs to improve recruitment and retention of students from underrepresented groups and disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds.

**2020- Jonathan London:** Fosters collaborations between researchers, community groups, and policymakers to address public health, housing, education equity, and environmental justice issues. Also serves on the state taskforce on nitrates in drinking water and on the advisory board of a California public environmental health program.

**2020- Kadee Russ:** Substantially improved public discourse and policy related international trade. Served in the Obama administration's Council of Economic Advisers as Senior Economist for International Trade and Finance. Has published multiple pieces at the non-partisan EconoFact and interacts with media extensively. Additionally, has testified in several California legislative committees to educate legislators on how tariffs and potential trade deals might impact California's economy.