RESOLUTION ON INCREASING THE NUMBER OF ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FROM TWO TO THREE

Background: The Academic Senate defines scholarship in broad terms as the scholarships of discovery, application, integration, and teaching/learning (AS-725-11). In 2003, the Academic Senate passed AS-602-03/RP&D, "Resolution on Establishing a Faculty Award to Recognize Distinguished Research, Creative Activity, and Professional Development at Cal Poly." This resolution declared one annual award with a promise of two annual awards contingent on necessary funding; funding which came through immediately, with two faculty receiving awards each year since its inception. The award was administered by the Academic Senate Research and Professional Development Committee until 2005, when the Academic Senate passed AS-638-05, renaming the award as the Distinguished Scholarship Award and renaming the committee the Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee. The number of annual awards remained at two.

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate of Cal Poly established a "Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development Award" (AS-602-03/RP&D); and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate resolved to establish a "Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development Awards Committee" to conduct the selection process and determine on an ongoing basis the policies and criteria to be used for selecting recipients of the award; and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate resolved to rename the "Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development Award" the "Distinguished Scholarship Award" (AS-638-05); and

WHEREAS, The Academic Senate resolved that "in support of the Teacher-Scholar Model, the administration work with the faculty to remove impediments and provide appropriate resources to implement the Teacher-Scholar Model" (AS-725-11); and

WHEREAS, The range, volume, and intensity of research and creative activity by Cal Poly faculty has increased since the creation of the original award; and

WHEREAS, The Provost fully supports an increase from two to three annual awards; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the number of annual Distinguished Scholarship Awards be increased from two to three beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year.

Proposed by: Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee
Date: October 8 2013
This memo acknowledges receipt and approval of the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution. I am pleased that the Academic Senate brought forward resolution to increase the number of awards presented annually. It is important to formally recognize outstanding research and professional development activities conducted by the Cal Poly faculty. The Office of the President is committed to fund three awards annually from the President’s discretionary funds in the amount of $1,250 per award.

The Distinguished Scholarship Awards Committee is hereby asked to explore the ways and means of establishing a quasi-endowment to provide sustained funding for the awards, as was recommended in AS-602-03, Resolution on Establishing a Faculty Award to Recognize Distinguished Research, Creative Activity and Professional Development at Cal Poly and confirmed in President Emeritus Warren J. Baker’s response.