



To:	Steven Filling, Speaker of the Faculty
From:	Michael Bice, Chair, Leaves and Awards Committee, 2019-2020
Date:	May 12, 2020
RE:	Annual Report of the Leaves & Awards Committee, 2019-2020

It was my pleasure to serve as chair of the Leaves and Awards Committee for the 2019-2020 Academic Year with committee members who worked diligently to perform the assigned duties of this committee. The members were:

Michael Bice, Chair, Any College, Library, Counseling
David Martin – COS
Vickey Harvey – CAHSS (Fall)
Stephanie Paterson – CAHSS (Spring)
Alfred Petrosky – CBA
John Garcia – COEKSW

The workload for this committee has been intense, and these committee members have put in many hours to complete their responsibilities. I sincerely thank all of them for their efforts. In addition, Ms. Minerva Perez has provided excellent support for me as committee chair, and I sincerely appreciate all of the time and work she has put forth to make our committee operations run smoothly. Moreover, Provost Greer supported the Leaves & Awards Committee by working collaboratively with the Committee, endorsing many of our recommendations, and providing resources to further faculty recognition within our community. The Committee is grateful for all she did.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Grants

The LAC received 43 proposals requesting a total of \$339,187. With only approximately \$200,000 in award funds available, ranking the applications was extremely time consuming but also inspirational. While not all proposals could be fully funded, the proposals exhibited a high degree of scholarship, exemplifying the talent on the CSU Stanislaus campus. The committee reached final accord on the proposals and recommended fully funding 16 proposals and partially funding 11 proposals for a total of \$199,116. The committee wishes to acknowledge the support of Ms. Joyce Bell from ORSP for her integral assistance with this committee and technical support for the RSCA online applications.



Sabbaticals

The LAC received 28 applications for sabbatical leaves. Based on the criteria set forth by the call, the Committee determined that all proposals provided sufficient evidence of merit for the award of sabbatical leave.

Awards for Outstanding Professors

Four applications were received for the Outstanding Professor Award. After examination of the materials provided by the nominees, the committee recommended **Dr. Edward Erickson** as the recipient of the **2019-2020 Outstanding Professor Award**. All members were thoroughly impressed by Dr. Erickson's dedication to his students inside and outside of the classroom throughout his 50-year career at Stanislaus State. He has been instrumental in the long-term formulation of the curriculum in the Economics Department, and he has created assignments in his classes that develop practical financial skills for his students – these include developing a personal financial plan and making investment decisions for an actual brokerage account that provides scholarships to Economics students. Dr. Erickson's wide-ranging positive impact shines through in the recommendation letters, as colleagues and students alike describe his passion for teaching, mentoring, and creating a collegial environment in the classroom and in the department. Numerous past students described him as an inspiration and a friend. He has written reviews for over fifty books in the last twenty years, providing remarkable insight within the economics community. His teaching, scholarly, and service activities have been substantial and impressive.

Five nominations were received for the Outstanding RSCA Professor Award, and members of the LAC were substantially impressed by each nominee's commitment to scholarship. After a very tough deliberation, LAC recommended **Dr. Aletha Harven for the 2019-2020 Outstanding RSCA Professor Award**. Dr. Harven's work focuses on social justice issues and how they relate to teacher pedagogy and student adjustment. Committee members were impressed with her passion for research and with her work as a Co-PI for the \$1.46 million NSF HSI grant entitled CIENCIA. The committee also noted that Dr. Harven has an impressive scholarly activity record since she began at Stanislaus State in 2014, including a dozen peer-reviewed articles and book chapters published or under review, three RSCA grants, nine invited talks, and eleven organized campus events that paralleled her research.

Upon reviewing his file, LAC unanimously supported the recommendation of **Dr. Steven Filling for the 2019-2020 Outstanding Service in Faculty Governance Award**. Dr. Filling's record of faculty governance speaks for itself: three elected terms as the Stanislaus State Speaker of the Faculty, member and Chair of the Academic Senate of the CSU, and current President-Elect of the California Conference of the American Association of University Professors are just some of the governance roles that he has undertaken. Dr. Filling strongly



believes that the University and the students are much better off when faculty are engaged in shared governance activities, and his actions clearly support this. The committee was thoroughly impressed by his long and sustained history of service in governance. Moreover, LAC commends Dr. Filling for the strong guidance and leadership he has provided faculty as the Stanislaus State Speaker of the Faculty while the COVID-19 pandemic reshaped the Spring 2020 semester and beyond.

The committee unanimously supports the recommendation of the **2019-2020 Outstanding Community Service Professor Award to Dr. Mark Grobner**. The committee noted that his list of service activities is vast and expansive. He has supervised over 225 students interning with various community partners and has incorporated service learning into a number of his classes. One of his biggest contributions has been his leading role in the creation and implementation of the annual Science Day, as well such offshoots as Science Saturdays and the Junior Scientist and Solar suitcase programs. Dr. Grobner's passion for community and service learning is unmistakable and commendable.

Elizabeth Anne B. Papageorge Faculty Development Award

The Leaves and Awards Committee and the Director of the Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning reviewed the materials submitted by the nominators and nominees for the Elizabeth Anne B. Papageorge Faculty Development Award. Application packets were received from six candidates. The Committee was impressed by the accomplishments, dedication, and potential of all the nominees.

After a lengthy deliberation, LAC recommended awarding the **2019-2020 Elizabeth Anne B. Papageorge Faculty Development Award to Dr. Sebastián Sclofsky** from the Department of Criminal Justice. Dr. Sclofsky's thoughtful teaching philosophy is inspired by Paulo Freire's teachings, in which he views "education as assisting students to develop a critical approach and encouraging them to assess their own beliefs, and not only as transmitting knowledge." He aims to create learning communities in his courses that fosters critical engagement with course concepts and develops analytical skills that are significantly important in the field of criminal justice. Student and faculty recommendation letters indicate that Dr. Sclofsky is passionate about his work and about student success. Additionally, during his short time as a member of the campus, he has taken substantial steps in building the Criminal Justice program at the Stockton Center, fighting hard for resources to improve the program's presence there. He has started a CJ Club at the Stockton Center, and he has built solid relationships with the Stockton community and with criminal justice-related organizations in San Joaquin County that will help the program thrive as it moves forward. Combined with his growing record of scholarship, we believed that Dr. Sclofsky is an excellent choice for this year's Papageorge award.



Assigned Time for Exceptional Service to Students

The Leaves and Awards Committee received thirteen applications for Assigned Time for Exceptional Service to Students for the 2020-2021 funding cycle, to be used in Fall 2020 or Spring 2021. The total number of WTUs requested in all proposals combined was 37 WTUs, and the total units available was 14 WTUs.

While most proposals were identified as worthy of receiving the Assigned Time for Exceptional Service to Students, LAC narrowed its recommendation to five specific proposals from the following faculty: **Elvin Aleman (3), Jessica De Silva (3), Monica Flores, (3), Rachel Grimshaw (3), and Wing To (2).**

The overall pool of applicants was outstanding during this cycle, and LAC members were quite impressed. In fact, we strongly encourage upper levels of administration to examine these proposals and consider institutionalizing some of the programs that applicants sought to support.

Emeritus Professor

The LAC was also tasked this year with reviewing the recommendation from the School of Nursing to grant emeritus status to Dr. Debra Millar. Dr. Millar was instrumental in establishing a comprehensive Systematic Evaluation Plan that showed the effectiveness of the Nursing program and helped tremendously in the school's most recent accreditation. Dr. Millar retired short of the 15 years necessary to receive automatic nomination for emeritus status, and after a thorough and collegial discussion with LAC, Provost Greer decided that she be granted Emeritus Professor Status.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Bice
Chair, Leaves & Awards Committee, 2019-2020