

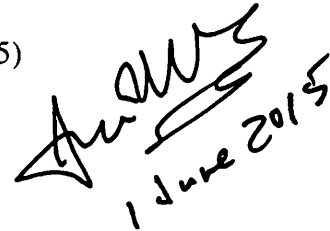
## Annual Report – Distinguished Teaching Award Committee 2014-15

In compliance with article 6.1.1 of the Senate Bylaws, please accept this report as the official record of the Distinguished Teaching Award Committee's activity for 2014-15.

### Committee Membership

Distinguished Teaching Award Committee for 2014-15 consisted of the following members:

- Mark Unno, Co-Chair, Religious Studies (term expires 2015)
- John McCole, Co-Chair, History (term expires 2016)
- Marian Smith, Music (term expires 2015)
- Dan Close, Education (term expires 2015)
- Jennifer Reynolds, Law (term expires 2015)
- Richard Taylor, Physics (term expires 2015)
- Sami Tayeh, Student (term expires 2015)
- Barbara Altmann, convener, *ex-officio, non-voting*
- Mary Bolton, staff, *ex-officio, non-voting*



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Unno', is written over a horizontal line. Below the signature, the date '1 June 2015' is written in a similar cursive style.

The Distinguished Teaching Award Committee is charged with responsibility “for the screening, investigation, and recommendation of candidates” to receive the Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching, the Thomas F. Herman Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Teaching, and the Thomas F. Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy. The traditional Ersted and Herman awardees receive \$4000, with a permanent annual stipend of \$2000 beginning in the second year; awardees of the Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy receive a one-time stipend of \$4000.

Committee members evaluate the nominations received and select three for the Ersted and Herman Distinguished Teaching Awards, and a maximum of six (this year) for the Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy. The committee is comprised primarily of previous distinguished teaching award recipients, as well as one or two additional faculty members and a student representative. The Office of Academic Affairs provides administrative support.

### Summary of Committee Activities

Nominations for the Ersted and Herman Awards were solicited during January with a posted deadline of January 28, 2015. We received a total of 111 nominations for 34 individuals.

The first committee meeting was held on February 6 to review the charge and timeline for committee work and to undertake a preliminary assessment of nominations and to screen out ineligible nominations. In the following weeks, committee members reviewed CV's and course evaluations.

The second committee meeting was held on March 18. Members chose 24 nominees to continue to round two. Academic Affairs staff obtained further information consisting of a statement from each nominee's department head addressing classroom instruction and

the nominee's reputation and strengths, peer evaluations, qualitative course evaluations, and a summary grade distribution.

After reviewing all files electronically, the committee met again on April 13 to choose award winners. Details on this year's recipients are posted to the Academic Affairs website <http://academicaffairs.uoregon.edu/teachingawards>.

We had a final meeting on May 29 to review the selection process and consider recommendations for future years. Barbara Altmann and Mary Bolton were charged with drafting language to help improve the committee's process on individual points, including revisions of the letters that go to department heads and language to broaden awareness of the special purpose of the relatively newer Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy.

### **Award Recipients 2015**

- Herman Award: Karen Ford, English
- Herman Award: Michael Stern, German and Scandinavian Languages and Literatures
- Ersted Award: Alai Reyes-Santos, Ethnic Studies
- Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy: Dan Dugger, Mathematics
- Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy: Judith Eisen, Biology
- Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy: Harinder Khalsa, Romance Languages and Literatures
- Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy: John Park, Digital Art
- Herman Award for Excellence in Pedagogy: Idit Shner, School of Music

### **Additional Committee Business and Recommendations**

Mark Unno has agreed to return as committee co-chair in 2015-16, which is important given the almost complete turnover on the committee in the coming year. John McCole will have a full-year sabbatical in 2015-16, but has agreed to serve the second year of his term in 2016-17.

Last but certainly not least, as Co-Chairs and on behalf of the Committee, we would like to give special thanks and our deepest appreciation to Mr. Thomas F. Herman and the Ersted family endowment for their great contributions making these awards possible; Interim President Scott Coltrane and the Office of the President, for their support and encouragement; Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Barbara Altman, ex-officio, for her leadership, wisdom, and support; Mary Bolton, Executive Assistant, Academic Affairs, for her assistance in making the work of the committee possible; and to all of the department heads, faculty, staff, and students without whose nominations and supporting documentation the brilliant work of our colleagues would not receive the recognition they richly deserve.