Proposal for a University Awards Committee
v. 4
As of October 25, 2018

Background
National recognition of the University of Arizona’s faculty excellence often occurs through the receipt of highly-prestigious and prestigious awards. While these awards can provide monetary support for the recipient, the award helps elevate the distinction and national rankings of the institution. Faculty awards are used as benchmarks for faculty excellence and accomplishment by the National Research Council and the Center for Measuring University Performance. In addition, the Association of American Universities considers faculty awards, fellowships, and memberships as one of the Phase I indicators for membership.

Recommendation
To support UA’s faculty in the pursuit of honors and awards at multiple levels and ultimately nomination of faculty to the National Academies, a University-wide Awards Committee is recommended.

Suggested Mission Statement
The purpose of this General Faculty committee is to advance UA faculty by systematically ensuring institutional nominations of faculty for prestigious and highly prestigious awards that will raise the profile of UA and its faculty. The committee will also provide recommendations for recognition activities and events associated with faculty receipt of the prestigious and highly prestigious awards.

To advance institutional nominations, the committee will:

- Promote a campus culture of recognizing faculty and provide advice on practices that would streamline the nomination and recognition process.
- Recommend nominees for external awards, focusing on prestigious and highly prestigious awards in different fields. The award nominations that the Committee might focus on include, but are not limited to:
  - Nomination for membership in
    - National Academies: Sciences, Engineering, Medicine
    - National Academy of Education
    - National Academy of Inventors
  - Election as an AAAS Fellow, American Philosophical Fellow, MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, Guggenheim Fellow
  - Pulitzer Prize, National Medal of Science, National Medal of Technology, National Medal of Arts, National Humanities Medal, NSF Vannevar Bush Award, NSF Alan T. Waterman Award, or MacArthur Foundation Fellowship (aka Genius Grant)
  - Tang Prize, Grawemeyer Foundation Awards, Templeton Prize

Suggested Membership
The Committee is a General Faculty Committee appointed by the Chair of the Faculty under the powers granted that officer in the UA Constitution and Bylaws of the General Faculty, Article V, section 6 (which does not require that all General Faculty committees include only members of the General Faculty). The committee will elect a Chair annually, who will be a committee member and a member of the General Faculty. All appointments should include considerations of field balance, gender and ethnic diversity, and general knowledge of prestigious awards. The regular membership of the committee shall consist of:

- Fourteen members of the General Faculty, with preference given to faculty who are Regents Professors, Distinguished Professors, and/or who have received highly prestigious awards.
- One representative of the UA Office of the Provost
- One representative of the UA Foundation, Ex officio non-voting
- The committee will be staffed by one representative of Research Development Services (RDS), non-voting.

General Faculty members are appointed for two-year renewable terms. The other members serve for one-year renewable terms as decided by the offices they represent. If other groups wish representation, they may request it through the Chair of the Faculty, and the Committee Chair will discuss the matter with the Committee, which will make a recommendation.

Committee members who are under consideration for nomination for one of the Committee-considered awards, will recuse themselves from the discussion and voting.

**Suggested Meeting Schedule**
Quarterly meetings are recommended. Zoom meetings, or another form of e-meetings will be encouraged, and all other communications will be by e-mail.