

Hello,

At our last Faculty Senate meeting the Planning Committee proposed some changes to the FS Awards Process and the Senate wanted to think about the changes before voting. I am writing to explain/outline the proposed changes.

The Awards Process now has a faculty at large vote for all three categories. The top 5 nominees for each category from each school is then voted upon members of the respective schools. The last few years we have had 70-80 nominees for teaching so the top 5 for each school may only have 2 votes. The first vote really was not very helpful in the narrowing down of the nominees. There are not very many nominees for the scholarly activity and service so the first vote doesn't really narrow down the nominations. The Planning Committee proposed:

**To remove the faculty at large vote. The schools will vote only on the nominees from their school. (There would be only one vote)**

What I mentioned in the meeting because there still are a lot of nominees in each school, the winner may not get very many votes. I suggest:

**If the winner doesn't have at least 3 votes then a run-off of the top nominees take place.**

If we do the above change then the way we do the Professor of the Year would need to change. The Awards Process right now has faculty at large vote first and then the school vote. The faculty member must have a nomination in each category and a vote in each category. One nominee may be selected from each school. Nominees are determined by the highest overall total number of votes in all three categories voted by the faculty of each school. The Senate then votes on nominees from schools to determine the winner. What happened last year was there were people that had a nomination in each category and a vote in each category in the faculty at large vote but did not have enough votes to make it to the school vote. Therefore we did not give the professor of the year award last year. The Planning Committee proposed:

**To remove the faculty at large vote. During the school-wide vote it is determined if faculty has a nomination and vote in each category. One nominee may be selected from each school. Nominees are determined by the highest overall total number of votes in all three categories voted by the faculty of each school. The Senate then votes on nominees from schools to determine the winner.**

The Awards Process right now has the Adjunct Professor of the Year determined by the faculty at large vote. Several of the adjuncts that teach at SE have other functions on campus besides teaching. Because most faculty on campus are not familiar with adjuncts in different departments the Planning Committee thought that many faculty were voting for people they were familiar with. They may be familiar with them for the other job they do on campus, not as a teacher. The Planning Committee proposed:

**The Adjunct Professor of the Year be determined by the number of nominations rather than a vote by the faculty who probably don't know most of the nominees.**

Please think about these proposals and we will discuss and vote on them in the next Faculty Senate meeting.

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