University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Honorary Degrees Committee
2000-10 Annual Report

Members:
- Ryoichi Amano, Prof Mechanical Engineering
- Nancy Bird-Soto, Asst Spanish & Portuguese
- Patricia Borger, VC Development (Chancellor’s Rep)
- Jane Hojan-Clark, AS Financial Aid
- Amy Coenen, Assoc Nursing
- Carolyn Eichner, Assoc History
- William Haseman, Director School of Business
- Ryan Holifield, Asst Geography
- Judit Jaimes, Prof Music
- Krishna Pillai, Asst Mech Eng
- Helena Pycior, Prof History
- James Topitzes, Asst Social Work (sem II)
- Beth Weckmueller, AS Enrollment Services
- Winston Van Horne, Prof Africology
- Darci Wutz, Assoc Dance (sem I)
- Michelle Lopez Rios, Chair, Asst Theatre

Charter:
Functions/ Responsibilities:

A3.1 Honorary Degrees Committee

(1) Membership. Eighteen members as follows: Nine elected faculty members; two academic staff from the Division of Academic Affairs appointed by the Academic Staff Committee; one graduate student and one undergraduate student; two ex-officio members. Each of the four faculty divisions is represented by at least two elected members. Appointed members are selected from the faculty by the University Committee. Ex-officio members are the President of the University System, and the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee or his/her designee. The chairperson of the committee is designated by the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee.

(2) Functions.
a) Considers and recommends candidates for honorary degrees in accordance with the following procedure. During the spring semester, the Chairperson of the Honorary Degrees Committee shall transmit to the deans, directors and the chairpersons of the several divisions, schools, colleges and departments, invitations for submission to the committee of names of persons to be considered for honorary degrees. A list of previous recipients is to be attached to the call for nominations. When names of proposed
recipients are presented to the Committee from sources other than an academic division, school, a college, or a department, the names shall first be referred by the Chairperson of the Honorary Degrees Committee to the appropriate academic unit for that unit's sponsorship. At least one-half of those presented as candidates for honorary degrees should have some connection with the University system, the City or the State. The Committee shall present its report and recommendation at a meeting of the University Faculty or Faculty Senate in accordance with the provisions of 1.04(8). A two-thirds affirmative vote of those present and voting at the Faculty meeting or Faculty Senate meeting shall be required to nominate a candidate for an Honorary Degree.

b) Considers and recommends candidates to be honored on the Ernest Spaights Plaza marker. During the fall semester, the Chairperson of the Honorary Degrees Committee shall issue to the UWM community a call for submission to the Committee the names of persons to be considered for nominations. The Committee shall meet in the spring semester to select candidates for recommendation to the Chancellor.

c) Considers and recommends, in consultation with the University Committee, candidates for a citation for distinguished service or significant contributions to the University of Wisconsin B Milwaukee. The award is given by the Chancellor.

(Document 1016, 3/17/77; UWM Administration approval, 3/30/77)
(Document 1079, 3/21/78; UWM Administration approval, 3/28/78)
(Document 1275, 5/14/81; UWM Administration approval, 5/21/81)
(Editorially revised by Codification Committee, 1/12/87, per Faculty Document 904)
(Document 1619, 5/10/88; UWM Administration approval, 9/22/88)
(Editorially revised, 5/13/92)
(Document 2082, 1/23/97; UWM Administration approval, 2/7/97)
(Editorially revised, 8/24/06)

Meetings:

October 8, 2009, 8:30 a.m., Lubar Hall N440


I. Call to Order. Chair Lopez-Rios called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.
II. Introductions
III. New Business.
   A. Guest- Trudy Turner, Secretary of the University-
      1. Turner is meeting with all faculty and academic staff committees this semester and requesting that the committees review their functions and charters. She asked that the Honorary Degrees Committee do the same and send her recommendations for revisions by end of fall 2009 semester.
2. Turner reminded the committee about records management requirements. The chair will be responsible for most records retention.

3. The main Secretary of the University webpage includes a link to the open meetings law and information about moving into closed session. The information posted is what Legal considers most accurate description.

4. The Office of the Secretary of the University is available to answer questions and provide information to the committee if requested.

B. Discussion about electing a vice chair- Lopez-Rios announced that she is pregnant and due on October 22. After speaking with Turner about continuing as chair, it was suggested that a vice chair be elected to serve in the event that Lopez-Rios is not able to return to work in November (she plans to be at the November meeting). Haseman self nominated and a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to elect him as vice chair.

C. Update on Motion regarding Past Chancellors on Spaights Plaza- Lopez-Rios met with Turner met with Chancellor Santiago this past summer to discuss the 2001 motion to inscribe the names of past chancellors on the Spaights Plaza. Santiago is not comfortable placing names on the Plaza based on position alone. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that Lopez-Rios will talk to VanHorne, who raised the motion last year, and determine if the issue can be taken any further since Santiago gave a response.

D. Review committee’s charter, functions and procedures- Discussion about the current language (who can nominate and endorse) took place and the committee will continue to review its functions and procedures and recommend revisions at the November meeting. The committee agreed to send Lopez-Rios the benefits of nominating individuals so that this can be distributed to campus with the hope of increasing nominations in the future.

E. Schedule meeting - November 19 was suggested. An email will be sent to the committee to determine a time and date that will ensure quorum. The nominations for Honorary Degree will be considered at the next meeting.

F. Other-None

IV. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

December 1, 2009, 3:30 p.m., Lubar N130


NOT PRESENT: C. Eichner, N. Bird-Soto, J. Jaimes, S. Kolison, K. Pillai

I. Call to Order. Lopez-Rios called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.
II. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the October 8, 2009 meeting were approved as presented.
III. Discussion and clarification of criteria for selecting individuals for honorary degrees.
IV. Motion to move into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1) (c) and (f) for the purpose of considering nominees for Honorary Degree was made and seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously (10-0-0). The closed session began at 3:41 p.m. The committee rose from closed session at 4:22 p.m. The committee will forward two nominees to the Board of Regents for consideration for honorary degrees.
V. Other Business
   A. Review charter and functions of committee-Motion to accept recommended revisions (process for non-UWM nominators). Lopez-Rios will communicate recommendations to Secretary of the University, Trudy Turner.
   B. Other-Lopez-Rios asked members to submit benefits of nominating to her so that she can share with the deans with hopes of increasing number of future nominations.
VI. The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

April 27, 2010, 2:30 p.m., Lubar N440


NOT PRESENT: P. Borger, C. Eichner, N. Bird-Soto, J. Jaimes,

I. Call to Order. Lopez-Rios called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.
II. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the December 1, 2009 meeting were approved as presented.
III. Chair’s Report. Faculty senate approved the honorary degree nominee, Bruce Block. Lopez-Rios forwarded recommended revisions to the committee’s charter to Trudy Turner, Secretary of the University. Van Horne reported that revisions were considered and approved by the Codification Committee recently.
IV. New Business.
   A. Motion to move into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85 (1) (c) and (f) for the purpose of considering nominees for Spaights Plaza Award was made and seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The closed session began at 2:40 p.m.
   B. The committee rose from closed session at 3:16 p.m. The committee will forward three nominees to Chancellor Carlos Santiago for consideration.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.
February 18, 2010
Faculty Meeting
2:30 p.m., Curtin Hall 175

Michelle Lopez-Rios, Chair of the committee presented the committee report to the Faculty Senate with other committee reports. After going into closed session, the chair also presented the committee’s recommendations for recipients of Honorary Degree.

May 13, 2010
Faculty Meeting
2:30 p.m., Curtin Hall 175

Committee member, Winston Van Horne, on behalf of the committee, presented recommended changes to the Honorary Degree Committee charter.