FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURER COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FOR THE FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURER FOR THE YEAR 2014-2015

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY,
HOWARD S. FRIEDMAN

From its inception well over half a century ago, the Faculty Research Lecturer Award has been the highest honor that the Academic Senate bestows. The Committee on the Faculty Research Lecturer is delighted to place in nomination, Howard S. Friedman, Distinguished Professor of Psychology for this honor for the year 2014-2015.

Our selection of Professor Friedman, after consideration of very worthy nominations from across a wide spectrum of academic disciplines and all three Colleges, is based on the fact that not only is he a leader in the application of scientific methods in Psychology to crucial human issues but that he has addressed through this approach important problems of human health and well-being and communicated the results in an accessible form to policy makers and to the general public.

To quote from the nomination letter, "Professor Friedman is an internationally recognized leader in two major areas of research- nonverbal communication and health psychology - in which he has a total of over 150 publications." Professor Friedman's work in the former would be sufficient to establish him as a leader in an important field of psychology. But he has gone on to examine the relation between psychology and health. His work has established this field as a major academic and scientific activity. His work on these topics has been rigorously scientific. He took and poured over the archives of the Terman study initiated at Stanford University in the 1930's and examined the longevity and cause of death of the project's participants in relation to various psychological factors in their lives. His book, The Longevity Project: Surprising Discoveries for Health and Long Life from the Landmark Eight-decade Study, has itself become a land-mark with important prescriptions for public policy.

To quote from another letter, "Dr. Friedman is widely and appropriately credited with a sustained rate of high quality theoretical and empirical research that continues to both lead and underpin a number of areas of psychological sciences. He first became known as a central definer of the field of non-verbal expressiveness. Later he moved on to make unique and major contributions to the field of health psychology. More recently, he has received not only academic recognition but also a great deal of public interest in his ground-breaking research on the predictors of longevity."

Professor Friedman has been elected to several professional societies including the American Association for the Advancement of Science and has been given the Outstanding Contribution to Health Psychology award and the James Mc-Keen Cattell Fellow award from the Association for Psychological Science. He has brought to UCR several major research grants including three grants from the National Institute on Aging over a million dollars each.

For his enormous productivity in the application of scientific methods to important problems in psychology, including those that immediately affect policies on health and wellbeing, the Senate Committee on Faculty Research Lecturer unanimously and enthusiastically nominate Distinguished Professor Howard Friedman as the Faculty Research Lecturer for 2014-2015.

Chandra Varma (Department of Physics and Astronomy)-Chair
Norman Ellstrand, (Department of Botany and Plant Sciences)