COMMITTEE ON DISTINGUISHED TEACHING

NOMINATION FOR THE 2014-2015 DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

PROFESSOR CARL CRANOR

In more than four decades at the University of California, Riverside, Dr. Carl Cranor has enabled an exceptionally broad and appreciative spectrum of students and teaching assistants to appreciate the interface between philosophy, science and the law. He was one of the founding faculty members of the Law and Society Program and developed its core course. Through this joint pre-law major he reaches students from several CHASS departments. Dr. Cranor is also a faculty member in the CNAS Environmental Toxicology Graduate Program to which he contributes research expertise in the regulation of toxic pollutants and the use of scientific evidence in legal decisions. His large upper division audiences are encouraged to participate in rigorous discussion of legal cases and statutes. They describe the course contents as fresh and immediate. They discover an enthusiastic, caring instructor with a sophisticated perspective on regulation, coupled with a hopeful view of risk management. Dr. Cranor promotes the general learning environment at UCR as a representative of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter. When the national office chose him to deliver the 2014-15 Romanell Lecture series, he arranged to reach the wider Riverside community by holding one lecture at the County courthouse.

To quote a faculty colleague: “By bringing theory into play against the morass of existing laws and regulations, Carl has been able to inspire his students to make a vivid connection between the nature of justice and its practice in our courts. Carl’s students have gone on to carry out these lessons well, as lawyers, regulators, and judges.”