FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURER COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FOR THE FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURER FOR THE YEAR
2016-2017

PROFESSOR CARL CRANOR, DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

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 listed below, composed of five previous Faculty Research Lecturers, is delighted to nominate, Carl Cranor, Professor of Philosophy for this honor for the year 2016-2017.

Nine exceptional faculty members across all the three Colleges at the University were placed for the nomination. The committee is extremely impressed by the very high academic, research and professional activities across the different disciplines represented. The committee selected Professor Carl Cranor for his demonstrated brilliance in Philosophy of Law and Science. Professor Cranor has been nationally and internationally recognized for his research regarding Toxins and public health. In 2014-15, he was the Phi Beta Kappa Romanell Professor which recognizes the recipient’s distinguished achievement and substantial contribution to the public understanding of philosophy. Only three professors in the University of California system have been selected for it since its foundation in 1989.

Professor Cranor has outstanding research accomplishments in how ethics, law and science of toxicants intersect. His research has not only had an extraordinary impact on academia but an equally important impact on the legal system when he worked alongside the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Department of Justice regarding the single largest environmental damage settlement in world history. A nominator writes that, “his work also sets a standard for how deep study of a field can be used to make policy recommendations”.

Another nominator writes that, “His publications communicate across the disciplines of toxicology, philosophy and law. He is the only scholar I know who has mastery over the concept of causality in science, tort, law, administrative law, who can discuss “evidence” in science and the courts and who has written brilliantly about the pursuit of truth in science and the legal system.”

Yet another nominator writes, “No contemporary topic is more important than the health of the human race, especially that of children, and no scholar is better positioned to do a superb job of the research that he does, Cranor is simply the best ethicist anywhere working in this area of law and risk.”

In recognition of his enormous and continued contribution to our society, the Senate Committee on Faculty Research Lecturer unanimously and enthusiastically nominates Professor Carl Cranor as the Faculty Research Lecturer for 2016-2017.

The Faculty Research Lecturer (2015-2016) Committee
John M. Fischer (Department of Philosophy)-Chair
Howard S. Friedman (Department of Psychology)
Alexander S. Raikhel (Department of Entomology)
Xuemei Chen (Department of Botany and Plant Sciences)
Harry Green (Department of Earth Sciences)