

**Committee on Faculty Research Lecturer Report to the Riverside Division
May 26, 2020**

**Nomination of Distinguished Professor Walter Clark for 2020-2021 Faculty
Research Lecturer**

From its inception well over half a century ago, the Faculty Research Lecturer Award has been the highest honor that the Academic Senate bestows. This year we received nine outstanding nominations, and they came from all three colleges. We are delighted to place in nomination Distinguished Professor Walter Clark, Department of Music, College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. If approved, Professor Clark would be making history as the first-ever member of the faculty of the Arts to receive this award.

Clark has devoted much of his career to the systematic scholarly investigation of Spanish and Latin American music. Although this is an area that used to be at the margins of musicology, Clark has played a significant role in moving it toward the center. This is an important scholarly achievement.

Although his principal focus has been on “nationalist” Spanish composers of concert music and stage works, his wide-ranging explorations have included music of the Spanish Renaissance, the Hollywood musicals of Carmen Miranda, the Latin American avant-garde from 1980 to 2010, and even Philippine choral music in the 1980s. He has authored many articles and book chapters, and edited a large number of books. His biographies are at the heart of Clark’s work. They are all first-of-a-kind books in the English language, and they also set a new standard for music biography in Spanish, as they re-worked the existing narratives through exhaustive archival research. Importantly, they feature detailed theoretical analyses of principal works, something lacking in the previous biographies.

One of Clark’s key contributions has been the rehabilitation and revival of Spanish and Catalan operas and operettas from around 1900. Partly as a result of his research Spanish conductors felt emboldened to undertake productions and recordings of these long-neglected and generally misunderstood works. These revivals have particular resonance in the current context of Catalan politics. Clark’s forthcoming edition of the three-act Spanish opera by Granados, *Maria del Carmen*, is a significant contribution. After a twenty-year search, in 2009 Clark found the manuscript in New York, purchased it, and gave it to our Special Collections, which restored and digitized it. It will be recorded in 2021 and produced on stage in 2022. This is a major recovery of Spain’s cultural patrimony.

Cambridge University Press will publish a book Clark is co-editing with a Spanish musicologist: the *Cambridge History of Music in Spain*, a book of 500-600 pages, with nineteen contributors. It will be the most substantial single volume ever published on Spanish music and fill a conspicuous gap in the literature.

Based on his extraordinary accomplishments over his distinguished career, in 2016 King Felipe VI of Spain awarded him one of that nation’s highest honors: knighthood. In a ceremony at UCR in December of that year the Spanish General Consul in Los Angeles conferred upon him the honor of *Knight Commander of the Order of Isabel the Catholic*. This is an extraordinary honor and it brings great prestige to our campus.

For these reasons and more (too numerous to mention), we, the undersigned members of the Academic Senate Committee on the Faculty Research lecture, enthusiastically nominate, as Faculty Research Lecturer for 2019-2020, Distinguished Professor Walter Clark.

John Martin Fischer, Philosophy, Chair

Carl F. Cranor, Philosophy

Alexander S. Raikhel, Entomology

David Reznick, Evolution Ecology, and Organismal Biology

Robert Russell, Economics