To the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly:
The Committee on Scholarly Honors and Awards respectfully submits its report of activities for the 2015-16 academic year.

I. COMMITTEE OPERATIONS
The Committee solicits candidates for each of the eight major Academic Senate Award categories and selects Academic Senate members for each category. Its duties and membership are described in Irvine Bylaw 127. Professor of Pharmacology and Developmental and Cell Biology Olivier Civelli, chaired the Committee in 2015-16. The Committee met twice during the academic year. Attending regular meetings were five appointed members, the Interim Vice Chancellor for Research, and the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning and Dean of the Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE).

II. DIVISIONAL ISSUES

A. UCI Medal Nominations
The Committee discussed the UCI Medal in response to the campus decision to modify the manner in which members of the UCI community are recognized for their achievements. The Committee on Scholarly Honors and Awards supports the University’s efforts to reimagine the methods of celebrating high-level campus honors and abstained from soliciting or forwarding nominations for the 2016-2017 UCI Medal. The Committee looks forward to future discussions about faculty honors as the University re-conceptualizes high profile faculty recognition efforts.

B. Distinguished Faculty Awards
The Committee reviewed 53 nominations for the Academic Senate’s Distinguished Faculty Awards for Research, Teaching, Service, and Mentorship and selected the recipients listed below to be honored during the 2016-17 academic year.

Distinguished Faculty Award for Research
Distinguished Professor John R. Miles
Department of English

Distinguished Mid-Career Faculty Award for Research
Professor David Reinkensmeyer
Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology

Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Research
Assistant Professor Jennifer Prescher
Department of Chemistry

Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching
Professor Marcelo Wood
Department of Neurobiology and Behavior

Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Teaching
Assistant Professor Christopher Bauman
Paul Merage School of Business


Daniel G. Aldrich, Jr. Distinguished University Service Award
Professor Emeritus Sidney Golub
Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

Distinguished Mid-Career Faculty Award for Service
Associate Professor E. Alison Holman
Department of Nursing Science

Distinguished Faculty Award for Mentorship
Professor Abel Klein
Department of Mathematics

C. Diversity in Nominees
(Meeting dates: 12/15/15)
The Committee continues to implement procedures and strategies to ensure a fair nomination process and diverse candidate pool. This year, the Committee partnered with both the UCI Advance Program for Equity and Diversity, and Equity Advisors to raise awareness about the awards. Additionally, the Committee communicated with each of the Deans to promote the nomination process and awards event throughout the academic units.

D. Modification to the Online File Review for Distinguished Faculty Awards
(Meeting dates: 12/15/15 & 5/11/16)
The Committee implemented an online system for the submission and review of nominations for the Distinguished Faculty Awards. The Committee found that while the module was useful for their review, there were some minor issues that should be addressed for the future. Key aspects of the online system that would benefit from change include (1) the manner in which nominators and supporters access the information in a nomination file, and (2) making visible to nominators any changes to the online submission form.

III. COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY HONORS MEMBERSHIP
Senate Members (voting)
Olivier Civelli, Medicine, Chair
Imran Currim, Business
Catherine Fisk, Business
Natalia Komarova, Physical Sciences
Kristen Monroe, Social Sciences

Ex Officio (non-voting)
Michael Dennin, Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning & Dean, DUE
James Hicks, Interim Vice Chancellor of Research