

Moreno Valley Academic Resolution #3: Distinguished Faculty

Mover: Travis Gibbs

First Reading: September 17, 2007

Second:

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Whereas RCCD has few venues to recognize and honor faculty who go well above and beyond required duties,

Be it Resolved that RCCD establish a Board Policy to recognize and honor distinguished faculty **(one award for full-time and one for part-time or just for faculty whether full- or part-time?)** whereby the primary criterion are faculty who are voted by their peers as going *well* above and beyond any particular set of criteria for advancement (nominations and voting to take place on an annual basis **(one a year, or one from each campus/college and one for the District?)**) and that administrative input be limited to inputs concerning the efficacy and veracity of the established criterion rather than serving as the ultimate authority about who is or is not distinguished, and

Be it Further Resolved that all faculty who had achieved the rank of professor under the old guidelines for academic rank be automatically awarded the honor of Distinguished Faculty, and

Be it Further Resolved that all Distinguished Faculty be honored by having a distinct section of the Faculty Handbook devoted to their distinguished service, and that a separate section in the RCC's Hall of Fame be devoted to their distinguished service and that the Board of Trustee's normal facility for public meetings have an area devoted to their distinguished service, and that each Campus/College in the District also set aside an area that publicly displays those persons who have been honored as Distinguished Faculty **(should there be a stipend involved? How would that work for those who are grandfathered into the new category?)**.

Rationale:

With the primary exception of Distinguished Faculty Lecturer, RCC does not have a venue for recognizing faculty who have made major contributions to their College, the District, the community, and/or their discipline by going well beyond any set of established criteria or requirements for advancement.

With the proposed changes in Board Policy governing Academic Rank, those few faculty who had achieved the rank of professor under the former guidelines deserve the recognition for achievement that will be lost as many of RCC's faculty join the rank of professor. RCC therefore needs a category to maintain the breadth and depth of their achievement.

It should be understood that the category of Distinguished Faculty be taken very seriously as an outstanding award that requires distinguished service. The definition of what constitutes distinguished service shall be dynamic, not limited to a set of static criteria, but recognized and agreed upon by a majority vote **(two-thirds vote?)** of RCC faculty (including part-time faculty).

