MEMORANDUM

TO: CSU Presidents

FROM: Ephraim P. Smith
Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Wang Family Excellence Award

Purpose of the Award

At the March 2014 Board of Trustees meeting, Chancellor White announced discussions were underway with Trustee Emeritus Stanley T. Wang to reinstate the Wang Family Excellence Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize and celebrate those CSU faculty members who, through extraordinary commitment and dedication, have distinguished themselves by exemplary contributions and achievements in their academic disciplines, while having a discernable effect on students. Similarly, a staff member also will be recognized for extraordinary accomplishments in appropriate areas of his or her university assignment.

Past selection committees asked me to convey the following comments in this call for nominations:

• A Wang nominee should be regarded as a “superstar” on the campus.
• Nominees should be making multi-faceted contributions to the learning community, such as involving students in their research, arranging and supervising student internships, involving students in community service, recruiting students, and publishing.

Trustee Wang’s pledge of a $300,000 gift to the California State University will be awarded in the amount of $20,000 to each of four faculty members and one staff member annually for three years. This gift has been accepted and is being administered through the CSU Foundation.
Selection Committee

The Wang Family Excellence Award Selection Committee will be appointed by Chancellor White in consultation with Trustee Emeritus Wang. Members of the committee will include: (1) two members of the Board of the Trustees, (2) Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer, (3) Vice Chancellor, Human Resources, (4) Chair of the CSU Systemwide Academic Senate, and (5) a CSU tenured faculty member previously recognized by the Board of Trustees for outstanding accomplishments. Trustee Emeritus Wang may serve as an advisor to the committee.

Nomination Process

Each campus president annually may nominate for consideration by the Wang Award Committee one probationary or tenured faculty member from each of the following academic discipline groupings as delineated in Attachment A:

(a) Visual and Performing Arts and Letters;
(b) Natural Sciences, Mathematical and Computer Sciences and Engineering;
(c) Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Service; and
(d) Education, and Professional and Applied Sciences.

Faculty members nominated for the award must have participated successfully in a campus peer-academic administrative review process such as the reappointment, tenure, and promotion or faculty merit award of teaching, research or scholarship grant processes, and the like. These reviews must have occurred no earlier than the 2010-11 academic year. Those faculty who have not been reviewed will be referred to the campus awards committee for prescreening. Although a CSU president may elect not to nominate four faculty members, no more than one faculty member from each of the disciplines cited above may be nominated. Attached is a sheet with the disciplines subsumed under each of the four major headings. (Note: These four categories may not match a campus’s academic organization. Only one nomination per campus may be made under each of the four major Wang discipline categories.)

Awardees will have an outstanding record in: Teaching, Scholarship and/or Service.

The CSU president may also nominate one staff member who currently serves in the management personnel plan as an Administrator III or IV on a campus. To be eligible, the staff member’s record of outstanding performance, activities, and accomplishments cited must occur after January 1, 2010. Only one staff member may be nominated per campus.

It is expected that each nomination will be uploaded to the following website https://csyou.calstate.edu/Employee-Resources/wangawards/Pages/default.aspx including a separate cover letter from the university president; the president’s letter should not exceed two (2) pages. No hard copy submissions will be accepted. A current resume or curriculum vitae must accompany each nomination. Additional documentation is limited to five (5) single spaced, single-sided pages, where nominees may display examples of their individuality and excellence. Submissions for each faculty nominee should include feedback or evidence of impact on students; to this end, quotes from students would be appropriate. Also, please include a high quality, professionally-shot, full color photo, which
may be arranged with your campus’s public affairs office. Specific requirements for the photo can be found on the website.

**Criteria**

- Awards will be made to those who have made truly remarkable contributions to the advancement of their respective universities and/or the CSU system.
- Nominees should have a demonstrated record of unusually meritorious achievements documented by evidence of superior accomplishments and contributions to the discipline or achievements in an assignment.
- The activities must advance the mission of the university, bring benefit and credit to the CSU, and contribute to the enhancement of the CSU’s excellence in teaching, learning, research, scholarly pursuits, student support and community contributions.

Previous Wang Family Excellence Award recipients are not eligible for a subsequent nomination.

**Submission of Nominations and Announcement of Awards**

Nominations with supporting documentation should be uploaded to https://csvou.calstate.edu/Employee-Resources/wangawards/Pages/default.aspx no later than Monday, November 3, 2014. Winner notification will take place late December, with presentation of the annual awards expected at the January 2015 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Questions regarding this award program, particularly the nominating process, should be addressed to Sara Zaragoza at szaragoza@calstate.edu or Shannon Bowman at sbowman@calstate.edu.

Attachment A

c: Timothy P. White, Chancellor
   Garrett Ashley, Vice Chancellor for University Relations & Advancement
   CSU Academic Senate Chairs
   Provosts/Vice President for Academic Affairs