

SPECIAL RIO HONDO AWARDS

BP No. 1500

Board Adopted: 6/29/77; 1/10/79; 3/13/02; 11/12/03; 5/13/09; 9/10/14

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I. In recognition of contributions of many citizens to the growth and development of Rio Hondo Community College and unselfish services for the good of the community at large, the following special awards programs are established.

A. Fellow of Rio Hondo College Award

Each year, by March 1, a committee composed of the Superintendent/President of the College, the president of the Board of Trustees, the president of the Academic Senate, and the president of the Associated Students of Rio Hondo College will meet to recommend, if appropriate, to the Board of Trustees an individual or individuals who may be presented with the Fellow of Rio Hondo College Award at the next following commencement, subject to the approval of the Board.

1. This award is reserved for those who have made outstanding contributions to the District (e.g., employees, Board Members, and others) for the progress and development of Rio Hondo College. An appropriate plaque containing the Rio Hondo College seal will be presented to the recipient of the award, and a permanent plaque will be kept at the College honoring each of the "Fellows."

B. Distinguished Service Award

1. The Distinguished Service Award will be conferred by vote of the Board of Trustees upon members of the Rio Hondo Community College District who have made outstanding contributions to the community which the Board feels should be recognized. The award may go to political office holders, non-partisan public office holders, or other distinguished members who have made unusual efforts to serve the community. This award is not necessarily restricted to those who have made specific and direct contributions to the College, but to those who have benefited the community, and presumably, indirectly improved Rio Hondo College.
2. The Distinguished Service Award will be commemorated with an appropriate scroll, permanently mounted with a brief legend indicating that the award is for distinguished service.
3. The award may be bestowed at any Board meeting either by recommendations of the staff and approval by the Board or motion by a member of the Board and subsequent ratification by the entire Board. A unanimous vote is required for bestowal of the Distinguished Service Award.

C. Classified Employee Award

1. The Classified Employee Award is established through the Board of Governors along with the System Office and the Foundation for

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California Community Colleges and will be conferred by vote of the Board of Trustees to recognize outstanding Classified employees throughout the community college system.

2. This award honors community college Classified employees who demonstrate the highest level of commitment to professionalism and community colleges. Recipients are nominated by their colleagues and endorsed by the local Board. No later than March 10 each local Board may forward the information for one nominee to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.
3. The following guidelines are to be used in making the selection of nominees and finalists:
 - a. The nominee should be committed to the fundamental principles of the California Community College mission as well as the mission of the local college District.
 - b. The nominee should be committed to high standards of job performance and exemplify professionalism. The essay response and supporting letters should reflect this commitment.
 - Is motivated and interested in the job
 - Demonstrates high skills, competence, and knowledge on the job
 - Plays a leadership role in employee/management collaboration
 - Promotes collaboration within the work environment
 - Is committed to high standards of performance
 - Exemplifies professionalism at all times
 - Steps up to cooperatively work through problems
 - c. The nominee should be committed to serving the institution through participation in College, professional, and/or community activities. There should be evidence of this participation.
 - Is involved in College and/or District activities
 - Organizes others within the work environment
 - Promotes open communication among work groups
 - Is willing to take the extra step (to be identified)
 - d. The nominee should be committed to serving as a leader beyond the local institution through service in local, statewide, and/or national activities. There should be evidence of activities that reveal leadership through participation in employee organizations, community groups, or participation in state or national organizations.
 - Is involved in professional and/or community volunteerism/activities
 - Organizes others within the community

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- Shows acts of service above and beyond the call of duty (to be identified)

D. Distinguished Faculty Award

This award from faculty to faculty recognizes those who have consistently demonstrated excellence in and outstanding dedication to teaching and/or counseling, their discipline, and service to the college and the larger community.

1. Eligibility - All current and retired Rio Hondo College faculty are eligible with the exception of current members of the Senate Executive Committee. In addition, former faculty colleagues who are serving as administrators are also eligible.
2. Nominations -Any current or retired faculty member, or current student may submit nominations.

Nominators must complete the nomination form which consists of:

- a. A description of the nominee's excellence in and dedication to teaching and/or counseling (300 words maximum)
 - b. A description of the nominee's enthusiasm for his/her discipline (300 words maximum)
 - c. A description of the nominee's superb service to the College and the community (300 words max)
 - d. Other materials the nominator wishes to submit (e.g., letters of support from students)
3. Nominators must submit the nominations to the Senate 1st Vice-President by noon on the third Friday in February.
 4. Selection Process - A subcommittee of the Academic Senate will serve as the selection committee for the award. The Academic Senate Executive Committee Members will select the members of the selection committee. A subcommittee composed of the Superintendent/President of the College, the President of the Board of Trustees, the President of the Academic Senate, and the President of the Associated Students of Rio Hondo College will affirm the choice of the selection committee, which will then be forwarded to the Board for final approval. (Academic Senate)
 5. Award Presentation - The award will be presented at the first Board meeting in May. The awardee will be given a small plaque, and a permanent Distinguished Faculty plaque will be prominently displayed on campus.

II. Source/References: Former Board Policy 1025.