Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards Committee

http://fora.aa.ufl.edu/FacultySenate/Committees/Honorary-Degrees-and-Distinguished-Awards-Committee
Committee: Eight faculty members (Professor or above with strong records of teaching and research from diverse fields) elected by the Faculty Senate

Chair: Elected by committee
2019 Committee

Members
- Rick Yost, Chair
- Liz Lear
- Andrew Lotto
- Mark Meisel
- Simon Philpot
- Patrick Reakes
- Nicole Stedman
- Ruth Steiner

Admin Liaisons
- Matthew Hodge – Alumni Assoc.
- Joe Mandernach – UF Foundation
- Steph McBride
Formulates principles for conferring honorary degrees and distinguished awards

Solicits and reviews nominations each fall and spring

Diversity 2014–2018:
  M – 14 nominees, 11 awarded
  F – 5 nominees, 4 awarded
  + 1 distinguished alum
Awards

- Honorary Degrees
- Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Awards
- Distinguished Achievement Awards
- Stephen C. O’Connell Distinguished Service Awards
Candidates for Honorary Degree:

- Naziha Mestaoui
- R. William Petty
Internationally renowned visual artist and designer, working at the intersection of scientific communication and large-scale projection-based art installations.

In 2018 at UF executed two large-scale digital installations – “One Tree, One Planet” at the FMNH and “Live Oak” at Innovation Square, in partnership with COTA, the Biodiversity Institute, and the Cultural Plaza Institute.

Her works have been featured nationally and worldwide, with commissions from the International Olympic Committee, France, and other nations.
R. William Petty – HD of Science

- Co-founder of Exactech, which produces joint replacement products; one of the top 200 small businesses in the country and one of the top 10 employers in Gainesville.

- Former Department Chair (1981–96) of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation in the UF College of Medicine. In that role he developed UF’s tissue bank (now spun off as Regeneration Technologies, Inc.)

- Has served on numerous boards within UF and in national organizations.