

DISTINGUISHED research mentoring OF UNDERGRADUATES

FACULTY AWARDS FOR 2004/2005 NOMINATION INFORMATION

The Award • This award is designed to honor individual faculty members who have performed exceptional service as research mentors for undergraduate students. Each year the College of Letters and Science will honor mentors in the five divisions: Arts and Humanities, Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences and the Undergraduate Division. Distinguished Mentors will receive an award of \$2,000.

Purpose • Many Berkeley faculty make an extra effort to mentor undergraduates working on faculty research projects or to guide undergraduates who are engaged in independent research. This effort in mentoring undergraduates is consistent with the teaching mission of the university, and indeed, it can be a powerful teaching tool. Usually this mentoring takes place outside of the classroom, in the office or the lab. To do it well takes significant effort, but faculty members have not always been recognized for the time and skill that one-on-one mentoring requires, or for the exceptional opportunities that they create for undergraduate learning.

This award seeks to recognize faculty members who create extraordinary research opportunities for students **beyond the classroom**, and who devote unusual time and effort to **encouraging and developing undergraduate researchers**.

Criteria / Eligibility • There are many opportunities for faculty members to mentor undergraduates in research, formally and informally, through departments and through campus programs dedicated to undergraduate research. Whether the research is faculty-initiated or student-initiated, good mentoring is critical to student success. Outstanding mentors will have varied approaches, fitting their disciplines and temperament. We would expect such a mentor to be innovative and deeply involved, to develop professional standards and ethical responsibility as well as research skills, and to encourage students from diverse social and economic backgrounds.

We seek to honor faculty members who have made sustained and extraordinary contributions to undergraduate education by encouraging, guiding, and challenging undergraduate researchers. Only faculty members who have actively mentored students in four out of the last six semesters may be nominated. Senate and non-senate faculty are eligible.

The Nomination Process: Selection is a two stage process. Any student, staff or faculty member may initiate the process with a nomination letter to the chair well in advance of the initial March 14th deadline. The chair of the department will choose a candidate for endorsement and coordinate the initial nomination. A campus committee will identify the finalists from this initial set of nominations. Additional documentation will be requested during stage two of the process.

**Nominations from departments are due on
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2005.**

College of
Letters
& Science

Full guidelines and nomination procedures have been sent to department chairs. For copies or more information, call 643-6929, or go to <http://research.berkeley.edu/distinguished/>