

# Top Dog Alumni Award Guidelines

## **I. Distinguished Alumnus Award**

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is the highest honor given to an alumnus of the university. The university president and the alumni association present the award. The award is based on scholarship, leadership and service to the university, the San Joaquin Valley and the State of California. It has been established to provide special recognition to an individual who has distinguished himself/herself through outstanding achievement during his/her post-collegiate career.

### **Administration of the Award**

- He/she shall have completed 30 units of coursework at Fresno State.
- Nominees will have made a significant contribution (as a volunteer or donor) to Fresno State, the San Joaquin Valley and the State of California.
- Nominees must have received national or international recognition.
- The recipient or a family must be able to attend the awards ceremony.

Once nominated, alumni who do not receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award will be considered for an additional two years for the award. Once three years has expired, nominations must be updated and resubmitted. Additional material such as updated biographical information may be added to the nominee's file within the three year time span for future years review.

The alumnus who receives the Distinguished Alumnus Award will be honored at an awards gala hosted by the Alumni Association. The recipient will also be hosted in the President's skybox during a home football game, and will be invited by the president of the university to return to campus to share their expertise with students, faculty, and administrators. The Distinguished Alumnus Award winner will also be invited to speak at the University Commencement Ceremony.

## **II. Outstanding Alumnus Award**

The purpose of the Outstanding Alumnus Award is to recognize Fresno State graduates for outstanding accomplishments in their fields and to present such alumni to current Fresno State students as examples of exceptional achievement. The Fresno State Alumni Association works in conjunction with the deans of Fresno State's eight schools/colleges, as well as the dean of student affairs, graduate studies and the library, and the athletic director to identify and select candidates for the awards.

### **Administration of the Award**

- He/she shall have completed 30 units of coursework from the school/college submitting the nomination. In the case of the Division of Student Affairs, the award winner shall have completed 30 units of coursework from Fresno State and have participated in student activities. In the case of Athletics, the award winner shall have completed 30 units of coursework from Fresno State and have participated in one season of any Fresno State recognized sport.
- The nominee should have a record of distinction and accomplishment in his/her field.
- The nominee should demonstrate leadership and service to his/her profession and the community and society at large.
- He/she shall have made a significant contribution (as a volunteer or donor) to Fresno State.
- The recipient or a family member must be able to attend the awards ceremony.

Once nominated, alumni who do not receive the Outstanding Alumnus Award will be considered for the next two years for the award. Once the three years has expired, nominations must be updated and resubmitted. Additional material such as updated biographical information may be added to the nominee's file within the three year time span for future years review.

The alumni who receive the Outstanding Alumnus Award will be honored at an awards gala hosted by the Alumni Association. They will also be hosted in the President's skybox during a scheduled home football game, and will be invited by their area dean or director to return to campus to share their expertise with students, faculty and administrators.

### **III. Arthur Safstrom Service Award**

The Fresno State Alumni Association presents the Arthur Safstrom Service award to an alumnus faculty, staff or friend of California State University, Fresno who has given outstanding service to the Alumni Association and/or the University.

For 29 years, the late Arthur Safstrom served as the University's director of educational related activities and was instrumental in the building of the College Union. A conference room in the union is named in his honor. He was the student body president of Fresno State College in 1931-1932, a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and the 1960 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.

#### **Administration of the Award**

- Nominees for the Safstrom Service Award shall be alumni, faculty, staff or friends of California State University, Fresno.
- Service to the Fresno State Alumni Association and/or the University will be the prime factor of award eligibility.
- The Safstrom Service Award recipient must be able to attend the awards ceremony.
- Active membership in the Fresno State Alumni Association is not a requirement.

Once nominated, alumni who do not receive the Arthur Safstrom Service Award will be considered for the next two years for the award. Once the three years has expired, nominations must be updated and resubmitted. Additional material such as updated biographical information may be added to the nominee's file within the three year time span for future years review.

The Arthur Safstrom Service Award recipient will be honored at an awards gala hosted by the Alumni Association. The recipient will also be hosted in the President's skybox during a home football game.

## Procedures for Granting the Awards

Each academic year, the Alumni Association will establish an Alumni Awards Committee. The committee will be composed of the following individual representatives.

- The provost of the university and/or his/her designee.
- One representative from the academic senate advancement committee.
- One member at large from the academic senate
- The associate vice president for university communications.
- Four members of the alumni board of directors.
- The executive director of the alumni association.
- The associate vice president for development

The committee will call for nominations no later than the first week of February. Any faculty member, department chair, school/college dean, administrator, staff, student, alumnus or friend of the university may nominate any Fresno State graduate/alumnus for the award. **All nominations are due to the Fresno State Alumni Association no later than Friday, March 5, 2010.**

Each school/college, Division of Student Affairs, Graduate Studies, Library, and Athletics, will receive copies of all nominated alumni from their area by Friday, April 2, 2010. The school/college or area will then submit the names of its top three candidates (**in no ranked order**) for each award to the Alumni Association Office by Friday, April 16, 2010 for review by the Alumni Award Selection Committee. If a school/college or area does not submit its names of its top three candidates by Friday, April 16, 2010, an award will not be given that year for the school/college/area in question.

The Alumni Award Selection Committee will meet and review all nominations. The Committee shall have the discretion to accept or reject any of the candidates in each area. The Executive Director of the Alumni Association will notify the winners of the awards.

Awards will be formally delivered at the Top Dog Alumni Awards Gala during the fall of 2010.