AGENDA
HONORS AND AWARDS COUNCIL MEETING
September 24, 2018
3:00-5:00 p.m., Marshall Student Center, Room 3701

1. Call to Order, Introductions

2. Discussion of Honorary Degree Candidates
   a. Cheryl Brown - Education
   b. Lynn Pasquerella – Arts & Sciences
   c. Melanie Sanford – Arts & Sciences
   d. Kate Tiedemann - Business

3. Scheduling Spring Meetings:
   (1) January 21 - 31
   (2) February 11 - 22

4. Other Business

5. Adjourn
Present: Kamila Dell, Florence Desrosiers, Barbara Hansen, Brittany Hay, Johanna Lasonen, Matawal Makut, Jianjun Pan, Lee Stefanakos, Jeanne Travers

Ballot
Submitted: Lyndsay Boggess, Rachel Dubrofsky

Guest: Sarah Riordan, Commencement Office

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by Chair Stefanakos. Since this was the first meeting, introductions were made. Two new members, Drs. Matawal and Brittany, were welcomed to the council.

Discussion of Honorary Degree Candidates

Before the floor was opened to discuss the candidates, Chair Stefanakos distributed ballots for each candidate for members to use for individual voting and comments. It was clarified there were no limitations as to the number of honorary degrees the council could recommend.

In response to the question raised about the number of USF commencements in 2018, Ms. Riordan clarified there will be four. The College of Medicine holds a separate commencement in the spring.

a. Cheryl Brown Henderson – Johanna Lasonen

Dr. Brenda Walker, Department of Teaching and Learning, in the College of Education submitted Ms. Henderson’s nomination. Dr. Lasonen presented the highlights of Ms. Henderson’s career that included, but not limited to, over one hundred lectures, her cooperation with USF’s special education department since 2000, recipient of fifteen local and national honors, and ninety publications. The candidate has had an extraordinary career that is showcased in an impeccable curriculum vita. Her letters of recommendation were glowing. Ms. Henderson’s relationship with USF includes her contributions to USF’s College of Education by being responsible for building graduate courses, working with students, giving lectures, as well as contributing to community service and research. Her work for social justice and equality support fits within the goals of USF.

At this time, written ballots were cast. The results of the written and absentee ballots were to unanimously recommend Ms. Henderson for an Honorary Doctorate in Education.
b. Lynn Pasquerella – Rachel Dubrofsky

Dr. Pasquerella’s nomination came to the council from Dr. Alex Levine, Chair of the Department of Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Dubrofsky highlighted Dr. Pasquerella’s career as follows. Dr. Pasquerella is a distinguished scholar who has contributed remarkably to her professional community, and has been a steadfast supporter of USF, lending distinction to the University. In honoring Dr. Pasquerella, we honor ourselves.

Dr. Pasquerella is a first generation college graduate, who earned a PhD from Brown University in Philosophy. She is currently President of AAC&U and was recently elected president of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honors society. This is an incredibly rare distinction: to preside over two such prestigious associations.

In addition, Dr. Pasquerella has a career of strong service, a strong relationship with applied ethics, and public policy. She has a plethora of publications and is an outstanding, brilliant scholar in her field. Dr. Pasquerella has been a cheerleader for, and extremely supportive of, USF’s endeavors to implement educational programming changes and advance its status among universities. The AAC&U has been an invaluable resource for USF as we have planned, designed and implemented our new Enhanced General Education Curriculum. Dr. Pasquerella has been generous in contributing to our efforts, joining us in the spring semester 2017 for a series of events. She will be joining us again in the spring semester 2019 for the installation of Phi Beta Kappa’s Eta Chapter of Florida at USF.

There being no further discussion, a written vote was taken. The results of the written and absentee ballots were a unanimous vote to recommend Dr. Pasquerella for an Honorary Doctorate in Humanities.

c. Melanie Sanford – Jianjun Pan

Dr. Pan highlighted Dr. Sanford’s qualifications for an honorary degree that included her distinguished research in the field of chemistry, as well as her international reputation. Dr. Sanford has received numerous national and international recognitions such as being elected to prestigious organizations including ACS, National Academy Science and American for Advancement of Science. She has also been the recipient of many awards, including Blavatnik Award, ACS Distinguished Chemist Award, Dupont Yong Investigator Award and many more. Dr. Sanford has contributed to the field of chemistry both locally and nationally resulting in her being world renowned in organic chemistry. She has a large number of journal articles, several book chapters and patents (both granted and pending). Dr. Sanford has ties to USF in that she has served as a special chemistry "Dean and Barbara Martin Lecturer" spending two days speaking with faculty and students. Over the past decade, Dr. Sanford has taken a special interest in promoting and supporting women scientists and made this a prominent aspect of her visit to USF.
The comment was made that granting an honorary degree to Dr. Sanford would strengthen the relationship between her and USF.

At this time, a written ballot was cast. The results of the written (unanimous) and absentee (1 deny, 1 grant) ballots were to recommend Dr. Sanford for an Honorary Doctorate of Science.

d. Kate M. Tiedemann – Jeanne Travers

Dr. Travers did the honors of presenting the highlights of Ms. Tiedemann’s career. Dr. Sridhar Sundaram, Dean of the Kate Tiedemann College of Business at USF St. Petersburg was her nominator. Ms. Tiedemann has made extensive contributions to USF, the community, and the College of Business-USFSP. She is a successful businessperson commented to building community unity and is a major philanthropist to other major organizations as well. Kate Tiedemann is deeply committed to, and passionate about, promoting higher education, and to helping students reach their goals and educational pursuits. In addition, it is clear from her many letters of support, that she is deeply appreciated for her many attributes and significant contributions to a global society.

Discussion was held regarding the awarding of an honorary degree to someone who has donated to the university. One comment made was for the council members to think of Ms. Tiedemann in her role modeling and consider what else she has accomplished worthy of the recognition from USF. It was pointed out that with her contribution aside, Ms. Tiedemann’s letters of recommendation were strong regarding her humanitarianism.

Dr. Stefanakos will ask Dean Sundaram to help in the preparation of a statement that addresses the concerns of the council in regards to Ms. Tiedemann’s qualifications to receive an honorary degree.

There being no further discussion, a written ballot was cast. The results of the written (1 abstention) and absentee (1 grant, 1 deny) ballots were to recommend Ms. Tiedemann for a Honorary Doctorate of Business Administration.

3. Scheduling Spring Meetings

Ms. Pipkins will send a Doodle to everyone for their availability to meet in the spring 2019 semester during the following weeks: January 21-31 and February 11-22.

4. Other Business

Ms. Pipkins will post the Honors and Awards Council Schedule for Nominations on the Canvas site.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.