

DRAFT

“SURA Distinguished Service Awards” Proposal

In commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of the Southeastern Universities Research Association, the Development and Relations Committees of the SURA Board of Trustees propose to establish two “SURA Distinguished Service Awards.” (The first award would be presented annually at the Spring Board of Trustees meeting, and the second would be presented annually at the Fall Board of Trustees meeting.) These awards, and a third award to be awarded on an ad hoc basis as described below, are to be presented to individuals who have worked to support the SURA mission “to foster excellence in scientific research, to strengthen the scientific and technical capabilities of the Southeast and nation, and to provide outstanding training opportunities for the next generation of scientists and engineers.”

* *SURA Distinguished Scientist Award* – Presented to a research scientist from a SURA member institution whose extraordinary work fulfills the SURA mission of fostering “excellence in scientific research.” The award comes with a \$10,000 cash honorarium.

* *SURA Distinguished Friend of Science Award** – Presented to an individual whose extraordinary efforts within the SURA region fulfill the SURA mission of strengthening “the scientific and technical capabilities of the Southeast and nation.” The award comes with a \$10,000 cash honorarium.

Nomination and Selection:

It is recommended that the Development and Relations Committees manage the SURA Awards Program. Specifically, it would solicit, screen and select the recipient for each of the awards for presentation at the respective Board of Trustees meetings. (It is the intent that the Distinguished Scientist Award focus on individuals from SURA’s primary programmatic initiatives in nuclear physics, information technology and coastal science.) The following guidelines are suggested for program implementation:

- (1) Only Board of Trustees and Council of Presidents members would be eligible to submit nominations (limited to 2 nominations per SURA member institution).
- (2) Nomination materials would be directed to the SURA office; Development and Relations Committees staff would assist and help facilitate the Committees’ work.
- (3) A deadline for nominations would be established at 3 months prior to the award date to insure adequate time for committee deliberation and notification of the recipient.
- (4) Letters of nomination must include:
 - * Name and contact information for Nominee and Nominator
 - * A statement of no more than 500 words on the qualifications of the Nominee
 - * Additional letters of endorsement and/or a brief curriculum vitae may be submitted on behalf of a Nominee

The Development and Relations Committees also propose establishing a third honor, as it may from time to time find appropriate to award. The *SURA Distinguished Public Servant Award** is to be presented to an individual whose extraordinary efforts in a federal, state or local governmental capacity serve, or have served, to fulfill the SURA mission. This award comes with a \$25,000 cash honorarium. This selection would be made by the SURA Executive Committee from recommendations brought forward from the Development and Relations Committees.

* = As certain ethics prohibitions on the acceptance of an honorarium may apply to current public office-holders, the cash award may be designated to a charitable cause of the recipient’s choice.