

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HONORARY DEGREES
MINUTES
MAY 8, 2013**

Present: Andreas Cangellaris, Chair, Stephen Cartwright, Jeremy Tyson

Absent: Grace Abernathy, Akash Agarwal, Jayadev Athreya, Steven Zimmerman

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees (HD) convened at 8:05 a.m. in Room 159 Everitt Lab with Chair Cangellaris presiding.

I. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

Chair Cangellaris wanted to reflect on the recent honorary degree discussion at the Senate meeting. In the past, Senate discussions of honorary degree nominations have been held in closed session. Due to the Open Meetings Act, these discussions will be held in open session in the future.

Chair Cangellaris noted that he plans to discuss this change with Matt Wheeler, Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, and Roy Campbell, Incoming Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, to determine how it will affect the process.

HD members questioned if the open process may deter some individuals from wanting to be considered for an honorary degree. The nominee's name will become public and any negative comments at the Senate meeting may not be welcome by the nominee. It was questioned if the process should be changed so the nominee can make the decision of having their nomination discussed at a public meeting or if they would prefer to not be considered for the award.

Chair Cangellaris and Tyson, Incoming HD Chair, will prepare a statement to Wheeler and Campbell regarding the impact the recent situation will have on the way the HD Committee operates, the need for a reconsideration of the *Bylaws*, and request for input on how the process will be handled in the future.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the February 22 meeting were approved as distributed.

III. NOMINATIONS APPROVED FOR COMMENCEMENT 2013

James Thomson – John D. MacArthur Professor, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

The nomination has been approved by the Senate and the Board of Trustees. The honorary degree will be awarded in May 2013.

Fred R. Volkmar – Director, Yale University Child Study Center, and Irving B. Harris Professor of Child Psychiatry

The nomination has been approved by the Senate and the Board of Trustees. The honorary degree will be awarded in May 2013.

IV. NOMINATIONS APPROVED FOR COMMENCEMENT 2014

Narayana N.R. Murthy, Chairman Emeritus, Infosys Limited

The nomination will go to the Board of Trustees for pre-approval and then be forwarded for Senate approval.

George E. Andrews, Evan Pugh Professor of Mathematics, Pennsylvania State University

The nomination will go to the Board of Trustees for pre-approval and then be forwarded for Senate approval.

V. REVIEW OF NOMINATIONS PRESENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR COMMENCEMENT 2014:

Shahid R. Khan, Owner and Chief Executive Officer, Flex-N-Gate Corporation

The nomination was referred back to HD for further consideration of the concerns regarding Mr. Khan's local business (i.e., OSHA violations) that were raised by the Senate. No action was taken on this case at this meeting.

VI. RECENTLY RECEIVED HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS

Dee Dee Bridgewater, American Jazz Singer

A recommendation for a nomination was received from Wesley Seitz, Professor Emeritus. The committee felt the nomination was worth pursuing so Chair Cangellaris will request a formal nomination.

Kurt Elling, American Jazz Vocalist

A recommendation for a nomination was received from Wesley Seitz, Professor Emeritus. The committee felt the nomination was worth pursuing so Chair Cangellaris will request a formal nomination.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Franci Miller
Senate Office