September 19, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: College deans, University Distinguished Professors, Nobel laureates, and members of the National Academy of Science, National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Medicine, and American Academy of Arts and Science

FROM: John L. Junkins
Founding Director
Hagler Institute for Advanced Study at Texas A&M University

SUBJECT: Call for Nominations for Faculty Fellows for the 2020-2021 Academic Year

I am delighted to provide this opportunity for you to enhance your program by nominating scholars for the 2020-21 cohort of Faculty Fellows. We encourage you to solicit prospective nominees from your “rising star” junior faculty as well as senior faculty.

Faculty Fellows will be recruited for visits that typically last from three months to one year, but their visits may be spread over multiple years. Two $30K/year graduate student Fellowships will be awarded by the Institute to students studying under the direction of Texas A&M faculty collaborating with each of the Institute’s Faculty Fellows.

The two page nomination form for Faculty Fellows can be downloaded from this link and should be completed and returned to me on or before November 8, 2019. The form asks for the most important highlights of the nominee’s credentials and accomplishments as well as his or her potential role at Texas A&M. It is important to suggest potential collaborations that will accelerate career development of one or more “rising star” faculty members and their students.

Please note the following ground rules:

1. **All nominators should coordinated with their dean.** The signed nomination form is an agreement that the dean(s) will support 30 percent of the Faculty Fellow’s salary as well as provide a housing allowance, cover travel costs, office space, administrative support, and potentially, some discretionary funds for the nominee, if recruited. For joint nominations, the nomination form should be signed by the deans and indicate the fractional cost share.

2. **The nominators should not make contact with the nominees.** We may have more qualified nominees than we can recruit, and we often do not approve for recruiting very prominent people. We do not want to make unnecessary bruises on distinguished people or on Texas A&M’s reputation. The first contact with each nominee should be made when we are certain that he or she will be offered the appointment. **Your nomination should therefore be as confidential as possible.** Deans will receive notification from me if the Faculty Fellow nominee is approved for recruitment.
Please note the following important points regarding the nominations:

- Each college, the Mays Business School, the Bush School, the School of Innovation, the School of Law, the School of Public Health, and the Galveston Campus, will be limited to two Faculty Fellow nominations per call for nominations, with the exception that a college with an endowed Hagler Institute College Chair Professorship is allowed one additional nomination per Chair, per call for nominations.
- Additionally, each nominating entity can submit one joint nomination, endorsed by two or more deans who participate in cost sharing.
- The Provost has approved three institutes established as an outcome of the Academic Master Plan to submit one nomination each with the concurrence of a college dean. These institutes include the Institute for Quantum Science and Engineering, the Institute for Neuroscience, and the Center of Digital Humanities Research. These nominations do not reduce the nominations allowed by the college housing these institutes.
- All nominees should at minimum be of a “national academy level of distinction” as appropriate for their particular discipline. The first eight classes of Faculty Fellows provide examples of the accomplishment associated with successful nominations.
- The Hagler Institute provides a means for nomination and rigorous evaluation of those nominated for appointment as Hagler Faculty Fellows. All decisions with regard to rank ordering the nominees for recruitment are made by the six elected and three appointed members of the Faculty Advisory Board. The Hagler Institute Director acts as the monitor of these deliberations, but does not advocate for or against selection of any particular nominee. The two primary criteria for rank ordering of nominees are: 1) career achievement, 2) degree to which the nominee can enhance our academic programs.
- Regarding diversity of Faculty Fellows (college affiliations, academic focus, race, gender, or country of origin), the resulting mix of Faculty Fellows appointed is dominated by the demographics and quality of the nominations received and our ability to attract those approved for recruitment. Nominations of stellar women and individuals from underrepresented groups are encouraged.

The Hagler Institute will continue to succeed if we generate a stream of high quality nominations and work hard to recruit them. The impact to date of these scholars is truly remarkable; together we can continue to elevate the faculty and greatly enhance both the quality and reputation of Texas A&M University.

Thank you for your effort. I will be pleased to offer any needed clarifications.

CC: C. Fierke
    M. Barteau