CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Ernest Spaights Plaza Awardees

TO: Members of the UWM Community
FROM: Virginia Stoffel, 2016-17 Chair
UWM Honorary Degrees Committee
DATE: October 20, 2016

The UWM Honorary Degrees Committee invites members of the UWM community to nominate individuals associated with the university to be honored by inclusion on the Spaights Plaza marker in 2017. Ordinarily, eligible nominees must have terminated their formal relationship with the institution for one calendar year. However, exceptions will be made for the nominations of persons who have ended their formal connection with the university within less than a year, should their health place them at risk.

Inclusion on the Spaights Plaza marker is one of the highest honors awarded by UWM to a member of the university community, and is an enduring means by which the institution pays a timeless tribute to colleagues who have made significant and lasting contributions to the university. You are strongly encouraged to make one or more nominations.

Please note this year’s deadline for submissions is April 14, 2017.
CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION ON THE ERNEST SPAIGHTS PLAZA MARKER

Individuals whose names shall appear on the structure shall have been nominated by one or more persons. Each nominee to be honored shall have:

1) had a formal connection with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee or one of its predecessor institutions, for example, as faculty, student, staff, member of the UWM Foundation, of the Board of Regents, etc;

2) ended her/his formal connection with the University at least one year prior to nomination, whether by honorable departure, official retirement, or death;

3) made significant, enduring and institution-wide contributions to the growth, development, and mission of the university.

In the context of the Ernest Spaights Plaza, “significant, enduring and institution wide contributions” shall be defined as those which have had a marked, open, and publicly recognizable beneficial effect upon the growth and development of UWM.

“Official retirement” is defined as the date that the faculty member becomes a Wisconsin Retirement System annuitant. Part-time affiliation with UWM as an annuitant does not constitute a “formal connection.”

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS FOR ERNEST SPAIGHTS PLAZA AWARD

Letters of nomination should be accompanied by at least three supporting letters and a resume or other appropriate summary of the candidate’s contributions. Members of the Honorary Degrees Committee may not know your nominee or be familiar with the area in which she or he was active. Therefore the letter of nomination and supporting letters should document specific accomplishments of the candidate and describe and explain specifically how these accomplishments “contributed to the growth, development and mission of the university,” especially those accomplishments that went beyond the scope of, or transcended, her or his department and/or college.

Because of the sensitivity of the selection process, the need for strict confidentiality at all stages of this process is strongly emphasized. Prospective candidates should not be approached beforehand. Individuals who are called to write letters of support should be urged to maintain absolute confidentiality.

SUBMIT: All nomination materials electronically to secofunv@uwm.edu (Secretary of the University) and addressed to the Honorary Degrees Committee.

Please include contact information for the nominee (or designee) in the materials.

DEADLINE: The materials should be received no later than 11:59 p.m. on April 14, 2017.