



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2021 Ernest Spaight's Plaza Award

TO: Members of the UWM Community

FROM: Simone Ferro, Chair
UWM Honorary Degrees Committee

DATE: October 27, 2020

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 Spaight's Plaza marker in 2021. 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 Spaight's 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.

Please note this year's deadline for submissions is **Thursday, April 8, 2021**.

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 Spaight's 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 or staff 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

Letters of nomination for the Ernest Spaight's Plaza Award should be accompanied by at least three supporting letters and a resume or other appropriate summary of the candidate's contributions. 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 attached nomination cover sheet and all nomination materials electronically, as one PDF, to the Office of the Secretary of the University (secofunv@uwm.edu) and addressed to Spaight's Plaza Award Nomination.

Submission Deadline: Thursday, April 8, 2021

All nomination materials are considered confidential.

**2021 Ernest Spaights Plaza Awards
Nomination Cover Sheet**

Submission Deadline: Thursday, April 8, 2021

Nominee:

Salutation: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Primary Contact:

Salutation: _____ Name: _____

Title: _____

Department: _____

Email Address: _____

Department Chair or Program Administrator: _____

Supporting materials should include:

- A nomination letter and at least three letters of support; and
- A resume, curriculum vitae, or another appropriate summary of the nominee's contributions; and
- Evidence of specific accomplishments that “contributed to the growth, development and mission of the university.”

All nomination materials are considered confidential.