Nutrien Distinguished Scholar of Agricultural Sciences

1. The title of Nutrien Distinguished Scholar of Agricultural Sciences is an honorific, not a new faculty rank. This award honors colleagues at the rank of Professor who have excelled in teaching, research, or outreach/engagement, and whose work has demonstrated significant impact on their fields, students, CAS, and CSU, and/or the public. It is essential that such these awards are reserved for the most distinguished faculty. Therefore, no more than 10% of the total number of those holding the rank of Professor in CAS at CSU may hold this title at any one time.

2. To be eligible, full Professors must not already hold a titled position, such as University Distinguished Teaching Scholar, University Distinguished Professor, or an endowed chair or professorship, and will have generally served in rank for at least five years at CSU or a peer university. Eligible Professors must be active and respected scholars in their field of specialization, with records of sustained and significant productivity throughout their careers, including the years at full rank. They must have a record of excellence in teaching and outstanding service to their Departments, CAS, CSU, profession, and/or the community, with evidence of impact/outcomes. In evaluating and prioritizing these areas, reviewers will keep in mind the diversity of faculty activities across CAS as well as the trajectory of individual faculty members’ careers and the areas in which they have focused their efforts. Within the context of this holistic review process, evidence of distinction could include, but is not limited to, the following:
   a. elected position in a prominent professional association or national academy;
   b. significant external or CAS/University awards for teaching and mentorship, research, and/or outreach and service;
   c. leadership in establishing a nationally recognized program or initiative;
   d. significant contributions to supporting and increasing diversity and inclusion within CSU and/or within a particular field of study;
   e. a major prize from a national or international professional organization; and
   f. editorship of a major professional journal or book series
   g. evidence that the nominee will continue to lead, innovate, and be positive agents of change.

3. Procedures
   a. Nominations for the title of Nutrien Distinguished Scholar of Food and Agriculture come from Department heads, and will consist of a curriculum vitae and letter of nomination describing the candidate’s qualifications and providing examples of the impact of the candidate’s efforts in all areas of their faculty duties. Additional external and internal letters may also be used as supporting evidence.

   b. An ad hoc committee of five will be convened by the Research Associate Dean to carry out an initial review. This committee will meet once annually to consider nominations and evaluate Distinguished Scholars as described in item 6 below.

   c. The ad hoc committee will forward its recommendations to the Dean’s Leadership team, which will review the nominations and vote on awarding the honorific. The honorific title will be announced to the individual and the Department Head by the Dean, followed by press releases.

   d. In individual cases involving a time-sensitive counter offer or recruitment from another institution, the Research Associate Dean will send the information electronically to an ad hoc
committee from within CAS. In such cases, the Dean will make every effort to receive input from all members but may move to a decision earlier if swift action is required.

4. Newly appointed Distinguished Scholars from within CAS will receive a one-time allocation of $12,000. All Distinguished Scholars will hold the honorific title “Nutrien Distinguished Scholar of Agricultural Sciences”.

5. Subject to continued excellent performance as documented in annual reviews, Distinguished Scholars may retain the title until such time as they leave or retire from the University, are appointed as a University Distinguished Professor, or are appointed to an endowed chair or professorship.

6. Evaluation of continued excellent performance by a Distinguished Scholar will be carried out by the ad hoc committee described in section 3.b. In the sixth year after appointment, each Distinguished Scholar will forward copies of annual review letters and a current curriculum vitae to the Research Associate Dean. The ad hoc committee will evaluate the Distinguished Scholar’s performance and forward its recommendation to the Dean and Dean’s Leadership Team, which will vote on continuing the title. Distinguished Scholars whose performance does not meet the standard of excellence must discontinue use of the title.