

La Verne Academy

Dedicated to Collegial Leadership in Research and Scholarship

Bylaws

(last revised March 7, 2024)

La Verne Academy includes the University's recognized leaders in research, publication, and creative activity. Modeled loosely on national academies here and abroad, La Verne Academy membership brings with it responsibilities to the faculty and to the entire University commensurate with the recognition and rewards that each member receives. In addition to electing new members, the Academy was chartered to meet on a regular basis where members would read and critique each other's work in progress and hold writing seminars to assist other La Verne scholars who aspire to publish in preparing their research for publication and placement. Most importantly, the La Verne Academy acts as a symbol and as a promoter of research at the University of La Verne.

The first members of La Verne Academy were inducted during the faculty and staff recognition ceremony in April 2006. The charter members were Thomas R. Harvey, Jeffrey P. Kahan, Andrea Graubart Labinger, John Linarelli, Kenneth H. Marcus, Iraj Parchamazad, and Jonathan L. Reed. Since then, the following have been elected to membership:

2007: Donald J. Dunn, Glenn C. Gamst, Kathleen Lamkin

2008: Patricia J. Long, Kenneth Scambray

2009: Reed Gratz; Alfred P. Clark (Honorary)

2010: Jack W. Meek

2011: Felicia Rounds Beardsley, Ruth Trotter

2012: Janice L. Pilgreen

2013: Kevin S. Marshall, Matthew T. Witt

2014: William Cook

2015: Charles S. Doskow

2016: Issam A. Ghazzawi

2017: Ngoc Hong Bui, Jason Neidleman

2018: Deborah A. Olson

2019: Sean Bernard

2020: Leticia Arellano-Morales, Marcia L. Godwin

2021: Xiaoyan Liu

2022: Yvette Latunde, Ronald Hallett

2023: Kanya Godde Chrisco, Soomi Lee

Honorary member: Al Clark

The two distinguishing characteristics of members of the La Verne Academy are demonstrated quality research (or creative work in art, music, photography, theatre, or other creative arts) and

commitment to the University of La Verne. To receive consideration for membership, candidates must have attained the rank of full Professor with tenure.

Advancement of Research. The Academy has engaged in or proposed several ways of promoting research at the University of La Verne. Among them are the following:

- Sharing articles with each other (like the Oxford Circle)
- Sending copies of published articles to other institutions of higher learning
- Promoting mentoring programs by department which focus on research and publication
- Sponsoring the Faculty Lecture Series by introducing speakers, etc.
- Organizing an interdisciplinary daylong symposium or conference
- Hosting major outside scholars to discuss scholarship
- Printing a list of publications, Academy and/or University, each year

Selection of Academy Members. The Academy is committed to building a diverse membership across the colleges. The Academy will consider admitting all faculty who are (1) eligible for induction into the Academy and (2) express an interest in becoming members.

Faculty who have (1) achieved full professor status; (2) have an established record of scholarly and creative contributions over time, both quantity and quality; (3) are willing to commit to be an active member in the La Verne Academy for at least three years; and (4) received a performance-pay research release are eligible for membership in the Academy.

Exceptions to (4) may be made at the discretion of the Academy for candidates who have administrative responsibilities that prevent them from applying for a performance-pay research release.

Membership Categories. Active members commit to participate in the ongoing activities of the Academy whenever possible; honorary members are not required to make this commitment. Honorary members are not voting members of the Academy. Members may request to move from honorary to active membership, or vice versa at their discretion. The Leadership of the Academy is responsible for managing the status of Academy members.

Active Membership. Once inducted, La Verne Academy members are members for the life of their commitment to the university. Active membership is maintained by annually attending a majority of meetings and equitably sharing in the work of the Academy as discussed throughout these bylaws, including but not limited to:

- attending the faculty lecture series and reading group;
- participating in research days on campus (e.g. CASE day, Book Day, One Book);
- mentoring faculty;
- advising administrative entities that support faculty research such as the Office of Research, Sponsored Projects, and IRB.

Honorary Membership. Honorary membership is designed for faculty whose commitments preclude them from fulfilling the responsibilities of active membership. Active members who are no longer able to fulfill the responsibilities of active membership should request to become honorary members. Honorary members may at their discretion request to become active members.

Emeritus Membership. Emeritus membership is a subset of honorary membership, applicable to faculty who have transitioned away from a faculty role, retired, or are otherwise precluded from active participation in the Academy.

University Service. For purposes of performance evaluation, active membership constitutes service to the University, honorary membership does not.

Leadership. Every two years, the Academy selects a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. The Chair and Vice Chair are responsible for scheduling needed meetings, coordinating any related research events, making sure that bylaws are followed, and generally helping the Academy to fulfill its mission. The Secretary is responsible for keeping and sharing meeting minutes and keeping records of Academy-awarded recipients.

Academy Leadership will give periodic reports to the Faculty Engagement Committee, Diversity Committee, Library and Learning Commons Committee, and Provost's Office.

Numbers. Two new Academy members are normally elected each year (beginning in 2019).

La Verne Scholars Award. The Academy typically chooses up to five promising scholars each year to receive a La Verne Scholars Award. In selecting new La Verne Scholars, the Academy prioritizes peer-reviewed research contributions or creative work, in-progress and planned research or creative activity, and commitment to the University of La Verne. To be considered for the award, the scholar must be tenure track, possess the terminal degree in their field (as defined in the Faculty Handbook), have successfully passed the Third Year Review, and not yet be tenured. The La Verne Scholars Award may be received no more than twice.

Research Grants. Each year, the Academy reviews faculty applications for research grants, awarding available funds based on the projects' exceptional promise and likelihood of completion.

Quorum. It is the prerogative of the convener to declare a quorum, and the right of any member present to challenge it. Regular members who are administrators count in calculating the quorum. For the purposes of choosing scholars for the La Verne Scholars Awards and for electing faculty to the Academy,

- a minimum of seven Academy members need to be present;
- if only seven are present, their decisions need to be unanimous;

Voting. All members of the Academy have a voice, but only regular members who are full-time faculty may vote. For the purposes of reactivating emeritus members, choosing faculty for the La Verne Scholars Awards, granting honorary membership, and for electing faculty to the Academy, Academy members can vote (a) by being present or (b) by sending written (email included) instructions for whom they would vote, in priority order, if appropriate. Giving another member a proxy vote is not acceptable. A minimum of seven Academy members must vote in favor of a candidate for that person to be elected to the Academy or returned to active status. Amendments to these bylaws must be approved by a majority of Academy members present.

Timeline of Approval. In fall each year the Academy reviews faculty scholarship and creative activity and selects a handful of potential Academy candidates to consider seriously. The Academy deliberates in spring and chooses the year's new members by mid-April in time for presentation at the annual faculty and staff awards ceremony. The Academy also reviews candidates for the La Verne Scholars Awards in spring and chooses the new Scholars by mid-April. The Academy selects a sub-committee to review the grant requests received by the Provost's Office and complete its work by the end of March so that recipients can make research plans.

Announcement of New Academy Members and Recipients of La Verne Scholar Awards. The announcement of new Academy members and the recipients of La Verne Scholar Awards is conducted by members of the Academy at the annual faculty and staff awards ceremony each spring. The names of the new member(s) and award winners are kept secret until the ceremony.

Academy Website. Every Academy member has a descriptive paragraph and a photograph of themselves on the Academy website. The paragraph is linked to the Academy member's webpage where their scholarship or creative activity is fully described. Academy members agree to update the scholarship on their webpages at least once a year.