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**Project Title:** Enhancing Faculty Honorifics at Academic Institutions

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## Project Overview

Recognition of excellence among faculty members through honorifics is essential for fostering academic prestige and elevating institutional visibility. This document outlines strategies for promoting faculty nominations and establishing a supportive infrastructure for achieving academic honors at the department, college, and university levels.

## Why Faculty Honorifics Matter

- Faculty honorifics serve as key indicators of faculty excellence, alongside research expenditures and publications.
- Improve institutional reputation and rankings in specific disciplines.
- Currently dominated by institutions in the Northeast, Upper Midwest, and West Coast.
- Require active faculty engagement and structured support for successful nominations.

## Best Practices for Faculty Honorifics

### At the Institutional Level:

- Departmental Award Nomination Committees: Identify and support deserving faculty.
- College Point-Person: Coordinate nomination logistics, secure support letters.
- Archive of Nomination Materials: Collect exemplary nomination and support letters for reuse.

### agInnovation South Recommendations:

- Build a culture of nomination within SAAESD institutions.
- Share strategies and resources for nominator/nominee support.
- Celebrate faculty achievements to promote a cycle of recognition.
- Facilitate collaborations among honored faculty to strengthen pipelines.

### Types of Faculty Honorifics

- Disciplinary Society Awards: APS, ASABE, ASAS, CSSA, PSA, SSSA.
- National Awards: NAS Prize in Food and Agricultural Sciences.
- International Awards: Borlaug Award, World Agriculture Prize, World Food Prize.

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## Support for Mid-Career Faculty Development

- **Institutional & Professional Identity:**
  - Maintain up-to-date web presence.
  - Update Google Scholar and LinkedIn profiles.
- **Instructional Contributions:**
  - Serve as instructor of record or guest lecturer.
  - Mentor graduate students and advise undergraduates.
- **Research Engagement:**
  - Publish strategically.
  - Diversify funding sources.
  - Attend grant-writing workshops and present research findings.
- **Extension Activities:**
  - Increase stakeholder visibility.

- Publish scholarly Extension materials (e.g., case studies, profiles).

**Service & Leadership:**

- Participate in peer review and search committees.
  - Organize symposia and serve in professional societies.
  - Pursue leadership training and mentorship from administrators.
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**Roadmap for CAES Implementation****For Junior Faculty:**

- Establish mentor-mentee networks across departments.
- Organize informational sessions (in-person/webinars).
- Develop professional development plans.
- Implement metrics for department heads and College-wide Honorifics Committee.

**For Senior Faculty:**

- Identify faculty on an upward trajectory.
  - Form and maintain Departmental and College Award Nomination Committees.
  - Track nominees and re-nomination opportunities.
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**Summary**

Promoting faculty honorifics requires a deliberate, well-supported institutional strategy. By fostering a culture of recognition, providing logistical and strategic support, and maintaining an infrastructure of accountability, academic institutions can significantly enhance faculty prestige and institutional standing.