

Homer P. Rainey Award 2017



The 2017 Homer P. Rainey Award was awarded by the Board of Trustees to Roger Platizky



Homer P. Rainey

Homer P. Rainey was a 1919 graduate of Austin College. He taught at Austin College from 1919 to 1922 before leaving to earn his doctorate at the University of Chicago.

After several years as a faculty member, Rainey served presidencies at Franklin College of Indiana, Bucknell University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Texas. At the University of Texas, in the mid 1940s, he protested board actions that he believed threatened academic freedom. The UT regents fired Rainey in November 1944, which led to thousands of UT students marching to the Capitol and Governor's Mansion in protest and Rainey becoming known as a symbol for academic freedom.

He took on the presidency of Stephens College in Missouri in 1947. He joined the education faculty at the University of Colorado in 1956, received an outstanding teacher award in 1964, and became professor emeritus that same year. In 1971 he wrote *The Tower and the Dome*, an account of his presidential experiences at the University of Texas.

During his lifetime, Austin College honored Dr. Rainey with an honorary doctorate in 1932, the College's Founders Medal in 1964, induction to the Austin College Athletic Hall of Honor in 1966, and recognition as a Distinguished Alumnus in 1973. This award honors his legacy of success.

Past Recipients

2016 Ginger Chauncey and John West
2015 Karen Spore and Dr. Carol Daeley
2014 John Jennings
2013 Dr. Mike Imhoff
2012 George Diggs
2011 Karen Nelson and John Williams
2010 Phyllis Rieser and
 Dan Setterberg (posthumously)
2009 Sheryl Bradshaw and Howard Starr
2008 Cindy Bean
2007 Bernice Melvin and Larry Caylor
2006 Lawana Slaughter and E. Don Williams
2005 Vickie Kirby
2004 Dub Narramore
2003 Jack Pierce
2002 William H. Moore
2001 Jerry Lincecum
2000 Sig Lawson (posthumously)
 and Vicki Abbott
1999 Roy Melugin
1998 Shelton Williams
1997 Richard Tappa and Jay Evans
1996 Nelda Lambert
1995 Peter Lucchesi
1994 Robert Bradshaw (posthumously)
 and Harry Smith
1993 Kenneth Street
1992 Paul Thomas
1991 Goodloe Lewis
1990 Bruce Lunkley
1989 Bill Freeman
1988 Ralph McCord
1987 Myron Low
1986 Mike Barry
1985 Jack Jernigan
1984 Bob Mason
1983 Gene Day
1982 A.J. Carlson
1981 Carolyn Squires
1980 Howard McCarley
1979 Clyde Hall
1978 Edward Phillips
1977 J. Forrest Bryant
1976 Virginia Love
1975 John D. Moseley