

**CSU Professor Ceremony
December 5, 2016**

Thank you, Ellen, and good afternoon, everyone.

Thanks to all of you for coming here today to help us honor one of our very special faculty members: Terry Bynum.

As Ellen mentioned, during his long and distinguished career at Southern, Terry has played a leading role in computer ethics and is considered by many scholars to be the founding father of the field.

His first book, *Gottlieb Frege, Conceptual Notation and Related Articles*, helped to introduce the ideology of an important German philosopher to an English-speaking audience.

More than 20 years later, Oxford University republished the book as an “Oxford Scholarly Classic,” which speaks to its relevance as a highly respected scholarly work.

Many scholars regard his subsequent books exploring the world of computer ethics as milestones in the field.

At Southern, Terry established the first-of-its-kind Research Center on Computing and Society

Now in its 28th year, the center has established itself as a global leader in analyzing and promoting the ethical use of computer technology, while advancing the study of computer ethics as an academic discipline.

Terry’s prominence as a teacher is reflected by the fact that doctoral students from Europe and China have come to campus to work with him – even though the Philosophy Department does not have a Ph.D. program.

He also has served as a valued teacher for both the Philosophy and Computer Science departments - presenting to generations of students the computer ethics course he created.

Beyond Southern’s campus, Terry established the American Association of Philosophy Teachers, and he has conducted numerous workshops about philosophical topics on four continents.

He has been a delegate at two United Nations Summits and has chaired the Committee on Computing and Philosophy of the American Philosophical Association.

AND - he holds three prestigious lifetime achievement awards, which speak to his service to his discipline while bringing significant credit to Southern.

And now, as if all that praise wasn't enough, Terry has capped his distinguished career by receiving the highest official academic accolade that our state college and university system can bestow upon one of its faculty members.

Because of the depth and thoroughness of his research and writing – and the outstanding quality of his teaching - Terry has been chosen as a Connecticut State University Professor.

This means that he is no longer simply a Professor of Philosophy.

He is now, and forever more will be, a Connecticut State University Professor.

And this distinction is both a substantial achievement for him and a privilege for Southern, as we get to share in the reflected glory of his latest success.

As Southern's newest CSU professor, Terry joins a small and very select group of outstanding faculty members who continue to make significant contributions to their respective fields of study.

There are only 12 CSU Professors in the entire Connecticut State University System.

Terry is the first member of our Philosophy department to receive the designation and he joins Professor of English Vivian Shipley in currently holding this title at Southern.

There's one more point I'd like to make, in light of this distinguished award.

Just as Terry, during his career here at Southern, has been committed to doing superb research, I know that there is a long tradition of excellent scholarship and research at this university and indeed, throughout our system.

Our faculty are of the highest quality, and it is incumbent upon us as a university to do the best we can recognize, to encourage, and to provide support for their scholarly work.

So while this honor that we celebrate today for Terry Bynum is primarily for him, it is also a sign

— that our system in general, and Southern in particular, want to give research and scholarship the institutionalized recognition that such activities richly deserve.

All the more reason for us to celebrate this occasion today—not just because of the honor, but because of the high quality of the individual receiving the honor.

I compliment Troy Paddock and the nominating committee for their fine work in recommending Terry Bynum.

And, as president, I will claim a small portion of pride, on behalf of the rest of the Southern community, in acknowledging this outstanding scholar as one of our very own.

Congratulations, Terry.

This is an honor that you richly deserve.

And congratulations, by extension, to the rest of Southern's scholarly community.

And now, I am pleased to present Dr. Troy Paddock Chair of the Connecticut State University Professorship Advisory Committee.

Following John's remarks, our system Provost, Dr. Jane Gates, will read the Board of Regents proclamation designating Terrell Ward Bynum as a Connecticut State University Professor.