Outstanding Community-Engaged Teaching Award

Community engagement describes the collaboration between faculty and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.
—Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

Academic Affairs is pleased to announce a new teaching award recognizing Outstanding Community Engaged Teaching. Although we anticipate giving out an annual award, the inaugural award in the 2014-2015 year will consider engaged teaching efforts over the previous two academic years. There will be one award given out each year thereafter; the recipient will receive a cash award of $1,000.

Purpose of Award

The Outstanding Community Engaged Teaching Awards recognize excellence, innovation and effectiveness in teaching that demonstrates:

- **Community collaboration:** A commitment and capacity to develop and sustain reciprocal community partnerships and to contribute to positive change on issues of public concern.

- **Deeply engaged, high-quality teaching:** The integration of civic and community engagement into one’s teaching, and possibly into one’s research and/or service, as appropriate to one’s field/discipline and faculty roles.

- **Institutional impact:** Leadership in developing cultures, programs, and/or policies that promote meaningful engagement on one’s campus, within higher education, and/or in one’s discipline.

Eligibility

- Candidates for the Outstanding Community Engaged Teaching Award must be full-time continuing faculty (including instructors) who taught a minimum of two courses during the academic year 2013-2014. Both undergraduate and graduate teaching are considered.

- Candidates for the Outstanding Community Engaged Teaching Award should have participated in some form of curricular community engagement during the 2012-2013/2013-2014 academic years. Examples of such engagement would include: teaching undergraduate or graduate service-learning courses; developing departmental or institutional civic engagement programs and curricula; studying the impact of such courses and programs on students’ civic development. Faculty direction of internship courses can be considered if such courses include syllabi, learning outcomes, and interaction with community partners.

Application

*Application are to be submitted to the Office of Provost (Attn: Gene Murdock) no later than Friday October 3, 2014 5:00 pm. The Provost will announce the award recipients by November 17, 2014. Recipients will be recognized by the President and the Provost during the Fall 2014 semester.*
Application should include your name, faculty rank, department, and teaching load on the first page.

Application essay should not exceed 1500 words, and should include the following:

a) Scope of activities: Describe your community-engaged teaching activities in the 2012-13 2013-14 academic years.

b) Community collaboration -- how does your community-engaged teaching activities promote reciprocal partnerships?

c) Effective, high-quality teaching – what innovative practices have you used? What impact have these courses had on students?

d) Institutional impact -- What impact have your community-engaged teaching activities had on (if applicable) your professional development? On your department or college? On the development and institutionalization of cross-sector partnerships?

Applicants may also comment on the significance of engaged teaching activities to their research activities; however, this is not required as not all applicants have research assignments.

Supporting Documentation

1. A curriculum vita of the nominee (limit 5 pages)
2. A letter of support from a department chair or faculty colleague familiar with your activities (limit 2 pages)
3. A letter of support from a community partner (limit 2 pages)
4. Up to three service-learning course syllabi from the nominee from the 2012-3 or 2013-4 academic years. Course assignments that spell out service-learning and community-engaged projects can be added as well.
5. If applicable: student evaluations of teaching; evaluations you’ve conducted on student learning; reports or publications from 2012-3 or 2013-14 you’ve generated based on your engaged teaching experience

Selection Process and Criteria

Outstanding Community Engaged Teaching Award applications will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Office of Community Engagement and Partnership director. The committee will consider both quantity (e.g. how many community-engaged courses have you taught?) and quality (e.g. how fully have you integrated community engagement into your teaching? How large an impact have your activities had on students and communities?)