

FACULTY OF ARTS, EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AWARDS FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE 2012

Applications for the FAEHD annual awards for teaching excellence are now open. One award will be made available to each School of the Faculty. The prize for each winning entry is registration at the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA) or the Australian Teacher Education Association (ATEA) conference in July 2013. Winners will also receive a commemorative certificate.

Each winner will be strongly encouraged and supported to submit their application to the Vice Chancellor's Awards for Teaching Excellence, to be held later in the year. The awards are open to all current staff – sessional, contract and ongoing. The design of the award criteria is congruent with the national awards for teaching excellence offered by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) and submissions received from each School will be judged by a panel including the Associate Deans (Teaching and Learning) from each Higher Education faculty. The faculty reserves the right not to make an award for each school based on the recommendation of the judging panel.

The closing date for applications is Monday August 20, 2012 at 5.00pm.

Winners will be announced by global email and on the Faculty website.

Selection Criteria

All nominees will be assessed on evidence they provide in relation to the following five criteria.

1. Approaches to teaching that influence, motivate and inspire students to learn

Which may include: fostering student development by stimulating curiosity and independence in learning; contributing to the development of students' critical thinking skills, analytical skills and scholarly values; encouraging student engagement through the enthusiasm shown for learning and teaching; inspiring and motivating students through high-level communication, presentation and interpersonal skills.

2. Development of curricula and resources that reflect a command of the field

Which may include: developing and presenting coherent and imaginative resources for student learning; implementing research-led approaches to learning and teaching; demonstrating up-to-date knowledge of the field of study in the design of the curriculum and the creation of resources for learning; communicating clear objectives and expectations for student learning.

3. Approaches to assessment and feedback that foster independent learning

Which may include: integrating assessment strategies with the specific aims and objectives for student learning; providing timely, worthwhile feedback to students on their learning; using a variety of assessment and feedback strategies; implementing both formative and summative assessment; adapting assessment methods to different contexts and diverse student needs.

4. Respect and support for the development of students as individuals

Which may include: participating in the effective and empathetic guidance and advising of students; assisting students from equity and other demographic subgroups to participate and achieve success in their courses; influencing the overall academic, social and cultural experience of higher education.

5. Scholarly activities that have influenced and enhanced learning and teaching

Which may include: showing advanced skills in evaluation and reflective practice; participating in and contributing to professional activities related to learning and teaching; coordination, management and leadership of courses and student learning; conducting and publishing research related to teaching; demonstrating leadership through activities that have broad influence on the profession.

In assessing nominations against the five selection criteria, the panel will take into account:

- the extent to which the claims for excellence are supported by formal and informal evaluation;
- the extent of creativity, imagination or innovation, irrespective of whether the approach involves traditional learning environments or technology-based developments; and
- the information contained in student questionnaires and selected teaching materials submitted by the nominee.

Documentation

All nominees for *Awards for Teaching Excellence* must provide the following documents:

- Written statement, including an overview and an argument addressing each of the five selection criteria;
- Curriculum vitae; and
- Summaries of student evaluations of teaching.

Written Statement

The core element of a nomination for an *Award for Teaching Excellence* is a written statement in which nominees describe their teaching activities and achievements, and specifically address each of the five selection criteria. The written statement should be presented under the following six headings, in order.

- Overview
- Approaches to teaching that influence, motivate and inspire students to learn
- Development of curricula and resources that reflect a command of the field
- Approaches to assessment and feedback that foster independent learning
- Respect and support for the development of students as individuals
- Scholarly activities that have influenced and enhanced learning and teaching

The overview provides the opportunity for nominees to commence the written statement with a focus on the specific character of their teaching and achievements. It is recommended that the overview be no more than one page and that it include the nominees' educational philosophy and beliefs, a description of the teaching context and an integrated summary of the claims relating to the selection criteria. The majority of the written statement should be devoted to addressing each of the five criteria in turn. Nominees must provide evidence in support of their claims against these criteria.

The written statement is limited to eight A4 pages in total.

Curriculum Vitae

The *curriculum vitae* should outline the nominee's educational qualifications, career history, teaching positions and teaching experience.

The length of the *curriculum vitae* is limited to three A4 pages. **Summaries of Student Surveys**

Each submission must be accompanied by original student evaluation survey summaries provided by QI P (<http://gpps.vu.edu.au/surveys/cid/1/parent/1/t/surveys>) together with an overall summary of these that support the claims made in the application. The number of pages of processed survey data is limited to five.

Optional Supporting Materials

Selection is based primarily on the written statement addressing the selection criteria. However, nominees may include selected teaching materials supporting their claims against the selection criteria. The relevance of any such material must be made clear in the written statement.

Supporting materials are limited to a maximum of two of:

- Website (URL)
- CD ROM or DVD

Only one copy of supporting materials should be sent.

Eight (8) hard copies of the application should be forwarded to the Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning), Office of the Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts, Education and Human Development, Footscray Park, before the closing deadline.