

| | | |
|--|---|---|
|  <p>DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF HEALTH</p> | <p><i>Policy Sponsor:</i> Dean Faculty Council</p> | <p><i>Approval Date:</i> February 26, 2015</p> |
| <p>Terms of Reference: Academic Innovation Award (Est. 2015)</p> | <p><i>Responsible Unit:</i> Associate Dean Academic Faculty Council</p> | <p><i>Amendments:</i> Formatting Changes March 2018</p> |

Title

The Faculty of Health Academic Innovation Award

Purpose

The purpose of the award is to recognize an individual who has developed an innovative academic initiative that has resulted in a positive and sustainable impact on student learning. The award is normally presented each year.

Award Recognition

- The award consists of a plaque that is displayed in the Dean’s Office and a similar plaque is presented to the award recipient. The recipient will normally be acknowledged at a Full Faculty meeting or another Faculty event.
- The recipient receives \$500 towards their teaching or research program.

Eligibility

- All faculty members who have, as part of their regular academic or adjunct appointments, taught three consecutive years in the Faculty of Health and have not previously received the award. For this award a regular academic or adjunct appointment is one at the level of Sessional, Instructor, Lecturer, Assistant or Associate Professor and Professor.
- Prior recipients of the award five years or more since receiving the award.

Criteria

Both nominators and evaluators should consider the following criteria as a guideline for consideration. The nominees should provide evidence to support academic innovation, which can include but is not limited to:

1. **Demonstrated effectiveness of an innovation in course or curriculum design. This could include:**
 - the development or application of educational tools or technologies
 - the development or application of innovative teaching strategies or learning experiences to enhance student learning
 - the development or application of innovative assessment strategies that enhance student learning

- development or application of innovative fieldwork / practice education learning opportunities and/or strategies
- 2. Demonstrated evidence that the academic innovation has made positive and sustainable impact on student learning. This could include:**
 - presentation or publication of the approach within Dalhousie or to the higher education community.
 - evidence of improved student grades, improved student recruitment/retention, increased program enrollment,
 - positive student feedback, enhanced learning experience evident in student work in the classroom and/or in the field, or the adoption of the innovation by others.
 - conceptualization and evaluation of the innovation project grounded in the relevant literature.

Award Nomination

- The Dean's Office, via established communication channels, such as faculty and student listserves and any other available means, will issue a call for nominations. No letters of nomination will be accepted after the deadline.
- All members of the Faculty of Health community can nominate a candidate.
- Self-nominations are not accepted.

The nomination package must include:

1. Letter of nomination
 - Identifying information on the candidate and the candidate's School/College affiliation
 - Rationale/supportive reasoning for the nomination
 - Identifying information and School/College affiliation of the nominator
2. Cover letter from the nominee (max. 2 pages)
3. The nominee's abbreviated CV (max. 8 pages)
4. A description of the applicant's innovative approaches, contributions, and accomplishments in areas such as pedagogical frameworks, teaching methods, course design, curriculum development, assessment methods, various tools and technologies, along with a rationale as to why these contributions are considered innovative (max. 10 pages)
5. Three letters of support, one letter must be from a current or former student and one letter must be from a faculty member
6. Additional supporting materials (e.g., course descriptions, publications or presentations on the innovation, written comments from student ratings of instructions, additional letters of support, etc.) (max. 10 pages)

The complete nomination package is to be submitted electronically in a single PDF to the Manager – Research Support and Special Projects. Directors will be notified when a member of their unit has been nominated for the award.

Nomination of the Selection Committee

- The Faculty of Health Teaching Award Committee will consist of three Faculty of Health faculty members, one alternate Faculty of Health faculty member, one appointed member from another Dalhousie University Faculty and one Faculty of Health student.
- Each member from the Faculty of Health will normally be from different Schools/College.

- The Faculty of Health Associate Dean (Academic) will serve as an ex-officio member of the Committee.
- The Dean's Office, via established communication channels (such as faculty listserves and the Faculty Update) will issue a call for nominations of Faculty of Health committee members (regular and alternate). Should an election become necessary, it will be done in accordance with Faculty policy.
- If an insufficient number of nominations are received the Dean will contact faculty members directly to determine their interest in serving. The Dean will contact last year's recipient of the award first.
- The University external member will be appointed by the Dean.
- The student member will be recruited by the Faculty of Health' Student Societies and must be a Faculty of Health student.
- All members of the Committee will normally serve for two years (staggered terms are desirable) with the exception of the student member who will normally serve one year.
- Senate policy on Conflict of Interest must be followed and current nominees cannot be members of the committee.
- At its first meeting, the Committee will elect its Chair from the three Faculty of Health members.