



## 2017 Teaching Excellence Awards

**Nomination Deadline: 4:00 pm, Friday, February 17, 2017**

Every year, Thompson Rivers University recognizes up to three people who represent the best qualities of teachers, both in and out of the classroom. Nominees for the Teaching Excellence Award may be full-time or part-time faculty members of TRU. Nominees must have taught at TRU for at least five years. If you know someone you believe meets these criteria, please nominate them using the attached form.

**Award winners will receive an engraved plaque plus a monetary award to attend a conference or professional development activity of their choice.\***

\* Choice of activity must have prior approval of the Chair, Dean, and the Director of the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching. Winners are expected to share this learning experience at the Teaching Practices Colloquium or other appropriate event.

Please return the completed nominations to:  
Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, [learning@tru.ca](mailto:learning@tru.ca), by  
**4:00 pm, Friday, February 17, 2017.**

### **Eligibility:**

Full-time, part-time and sessional faculty members are eligible to receive the Teaching Excellence Award. Nominees must have taught at TRU for at least five (5) years.

### **Criteria:**

Nominees should be recognized by students and colleagues as excellent teachers, both in and out of the classroom. This award is given to teachers who best display the following qualities.

#### **I. Student Engagement and Motivation**

- The faculty member is fair, consistent, and realistic in their assessment of student learning while conveying a sense of accomplishment to students;
- Is a gifted mentor and role-model who enjoys motivating and challenging all learners;
- Supports learning beyond the classroom or laboratory, through consultation outside of class, and guides practicum-based or extra-curricular student activity with energy and experience;
- Motivates students to achieve and maintain standards of excellence and imparts an enthusiasm for learning;
- Is sensitive, respectful, and responsive to the diversity of students.

## II. Pedagogy

- The faculty member clearly cares passionately about the subject matter, the students' learning, and teaching itself as supported by students and peers;
- Employs inspiring, innovative and effective teaching strategies;
- Effectively integrates research into teaching through reference to their own research or the scholarly work of others;
- Demonstrates and conveys through their teaching an exceptional command of teaching and learning theory and practice;
- Contributes to the advancement of their discipline or program through contribution to the pedagogy of their discipline or through ongoing course and program development;
- Provides evidence of disseminating information about their teaching to the TRU community and elsewhere.

## III. Reflective Practice and Scholarly Teaching

- The faculty member provides evidence of skilled scholarly teaching through recognizing that they, as teachers, are learners themselves, and regularly solicit learners and peers for feedback on their teaching practices;
- Brings an inspiring curiosity toward the theory, technique, and practice of their discipline, cultivating creative inquiry and critical thinking on the part of their students.

Evaluation of submissions will be based on balanced evidence from six sources:

- Course evaluation scores and student comments
- Evidence of meeting the above three criteria
- Curriculum Vita
- Nominators' comments
- Teaching philosophy statement
- Sample course materials supporting effective teaching practices

### **Nomination and Process:**

1. Up to three (3) awards may be made each year.
2. Nominations for this award must be supported by at least six nominators. At least four of the nominators must be current or previous students who have received instruction from the nominee. Nominations must include written documentation from each of the nominators outlining specific reasons for the nomination.
3. Nominations must be submitted as **six separate pdf files (submissions not conforming to this format will not be considered)**:
  - 1) A completed nomination form and supporting statements;
  - 2) Current Curriculum Vita (CV);
  - 3) A statement prepared by the nominee (500 words maximum) describing their teaching philosophy and how their teaching practice exemplifies their philosophy;
  - 4) A statement of critical reflection written by the nominee (500 words maximum) stating how their growth in teaching and learning has shaped their current practice;

- 5) **Course evaluations from 3 of the 5 past years (submissions not conforming to this requirement will not be considered); and**
  - 6) **Sample supporting evidence demonstrating innovative teaching and learning activities, not to exceed 20 pages (submissions not conforming to the page limitation will not be considered).**
4. Please submit the completed nomination package electronically to [learning@tru.ca](mailto:learning@tru.ca) by **4:00 pm, Friday, February 17, 2017.**
  5. Past recipients of a Teaching Excellence Award are eligible for one additional future award. Previous winners may not be nominated within five years of receiving an award.