



## 2021 Faculty Excellence Award

Nomination Deadline: February 14, 2021 by 11:59 p.m.

Every year, Thompson Rivers University (TRU) recognizes up to three people who represent the best qualities of faculty and the [values of TRU](#), both in and out of the classroom. Nominees for the Faculty Excellence Award may be full-time, part-time or sessional faculty members of TRU.

Nominees should be recognized by students and colleagues as exemplary members of faculty, both in and out of the classroom, and who demonstrate such values as equity, inclusion and diversity, community-mindedness, curiosity, and sustainability.

**Award winners will receive an engraved plaque plus a monetary award of up to \$2000 to attend a conference or professional development activity related to teaching and learning.<sup>1</sup>**

*Please use the submission portal to upload nomination documents.*

### **Eligibility**

Full-time, part-time, and sessional faculty members are eligible to receive the Faculty Excellence Award. Nominees must have been employed at TRU for at least five continuous <sup>2</sup> years. Past recipients of a Faculty Excellence Award are eligible for one additional future award. Previous winners may not be nominated within five years of receiving an award.

### **Criteria**

#### I. Engagement and Motivation

The faculty member demonstrates (if applicable to the specific professional role):

- enthusiasm for student and colleague learning;
- mentorship and opportunities for growth to all learners;
- opportunities for student learning to happen beyond the classroom/laboratory;
- the ability to motivate students and/or colleagues to achieve, maintain and feel a sense of accomplishment around standards of excellence;
- sensitivity, respect, and responsiveness to individuals from diverse backgrounds and life-experiences; and
- equitable, responsive and realistic assessments.

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<sup>1</sup> Choice of activity must be approved by the recipient's Chair and Dean. Winners are encouraged to share this learning experience at the Teaching Practices Colloquium or other appropriate event.

<sup>2</sup> Continuous employment includes employer-approved leaves as per BC bylaws.

## II. Pedagogy

The faculty member demonstrates:

- enthusiasm for the subject matter, for teaching it, and for others' learning it;
- a repertoire of inclusive, inspiring, innovative, and effective instructional strategies;
- integration of research into teaching or practice via their own research or that of others;
- an exceptional command of teaching and learning theory and practice;
- a commitment to the advancement of their discipline or program through contribution to pedagogy or through course and program development; and
- a record of sharing about their teaching and/or practice to the TRU community and/or beyond.

## III. Reflective/ Reflexive Practice and/or Scholarly Teaching

The faculty member demonstrates:

- skilled scholarly teaching or reflective practice through acknowledging that teachers are also learners;
- solicitation of feedback on their teaching or professional practice from learners and peers (e.g. peer review);
- curiosity toward the theory and practice of teaching in their discipline;
- a record of cultivating opportunities for learners to engage in creative inquiry and critical thinking; and
- a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.

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

1. Curriculum Vitae, résumé or e-portfolio;
2. Nominators' signed statements (no nomination form is required);
3. Teaching philosophy statement (500 words maximum);
4. Critical reflection statement (500 words maximum); and
5. Sample materials supporting effective teaching or professional practices (~20 pages).

Throughout the documentation and nomination letters, faculty members should show evidence of meeting the above three criteria (1. engagement and motivation, 2. pedagogy, and 3. reflective practice and/or scholarly teaching).

Note: there is no page limit on the full nomination package when all components are included, however please attend to the limits on each section.

### **Nomination and Process:**

1. Up to three awards may be granted to faculty members each year.
2. Nominations for this award must be supported by at least four nominators who have been impacted by the faculty member's work in the TRU community. These may include faculty, staff or administrative colleagues or former students.

3. You may nominate yourself or another faculty member for the award.
4. Nominations must include signed statements from each nominator outlining and describing specific reasons for the nomination.

*Note: students currently enrolled in classes taught by the nominee should not be solicited.*

5. Nominations must be submitted as one PDF file. The file should include:
  - Four (or more) signed supporting statements of nomination;
  - Curriculum Vitae (CV), résumé or e-portfolio;
  - A teaching or professional philosophy statement written by the nominee (500 words maximum) describing their philosophy and how their teaching practice exemplifies the philosophy;
  - A statement of critical reflection written by the nominee (500 words maximum) stating how their growth in teaching, learning or professional practice has shaped their current practice; and
  - Sample supporting evidence demonstrating innovative teaching, learning or professional practice--this section should be a selection of work, and should be fewer than 20 pages total. You may wish to include items such as: peer evaluations, student work (with student permission), impactful projects, letters of thanks or appreciation, images of installations or news reports.

Please submit the completed nomination package by uploading it through the [CELT Awards](#) page prior to the application deadline.