



2020 Faculty Excellence Awards

Nomination Deadline: 4:00 pm February 14, 2020

Every year, Thompson Rivers University (TRU) recognizes up to three individuals who represent the best qualities of faculty, 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 must have been employed at TRU for at least five continuous* years.

Award winners will receive an engraved plaque plus a monetary award of up to \$2000 to attend a conference or professional development activity of their choice.**

*Continuous employment includes employer-approved leaves as per BC bylaws.

**Before booking/registering, winners must seek approval from their Chair, Dean, and the Director of the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching for intended conference or PD activity (it is not obligatory to present). Winners are expected to share about the conference/PD activity at the TRU Teaching Practices Colloquium or equivalent.

Please use the submission portal to upload nomination documents.

Eligibility:

Full-time, part-time, and sessional faculty members are eligible to receive the Teaching Excellence Award. Nominees must have been employed at TRU for at least five continuous* 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:

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 demonstrates:

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

II. Pedagogy

The faculty member demonstrates:

- enthusiasm for the subject matter, for teaching it, and for students' learning it;
- a repertoire of inspiring, innovative and effective teaching strategies;
- integration of research into teaching 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 to the TRU community and/or beyond.

III. Reflective Practice and Scholarly Teaching

The faculty member demonstrates:

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

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

- A selection of course evaluation scores and student comments, & peer review;
- Curriculum Vitae, résumé or e-portfolio;
- Nominators' signed statements;
- Teaching philosophy statement (500 words maximum);
- Critical reflection statement (500 words maximum);
- Sample course materials supporting effective teaching practices (<20 pages); and
- Evidence of meeting the above three criteria (1. student engagement and motivation, 2. pedagogy, and 3. reflective practice and scholarly teaching) *Note: there is no page limit on the full nomination package.*

Nomination Process:

1. Up to three awards may be granted each year.
2. Nominations for this award must be supported by six nominators. A minimum of four of the six nominators must be students who have received PAST instruction from the nominee in the past. 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.

3. Nominations must be submitted as one PDF file. The file should include:

- Up to six signed supporting statements;
- Curriculum vitae (CV), résumé or e-portfolio;
- A teaching 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 and learning has shaped their current practice;
- A selection of representative course evaluations from 3 of the 5 past years; and
- Sample supporting evidence demonstrating innovative teaching and learning-- this section is not to exceed 20 pages.

4. Submit via the CELT weblink: <https://www.tru.ca/celt/awards-and-fellowships/teaching-awards/submit-nomination.html>