

TRU Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award for Faculty & Staff

Terms of Reference

(as of January 2020)

Introduction:

Many faculty and staff at Thompson Rivers University are actively engaged in sustainability efforts—creating initiatives within their offices, integrating sustainability in their teaching curriculum, and conducting related research are just a few examples of the commitments to sustainability that faculty and staff at TRU make. Individuals who are making substantial contributions to sustainability at TRU deserve institutional recognition.

The Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award will increase awareness of sustainability efforts at TRU. The award will recognize individuals who, through their service to TRU and their scholarly activities, are doing the most to enhance environmental sustainability at TRU and in our communities.

Rationale:

This award will help recognize staff and faculty who:

- Develop and expand programming and research activities in the areas of environmental sustainability;
- Develop best practices that support environmental stewardship and sustainability at TRU and in our communities;
- Foster environmental literacy amongst students, staff and faculty; and
- Encourage the development of partnerships in support of environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Award

The annual award will provide one faculty member or staff member with a plaque in their name, and \$1000 that has to be used in PD or a program that has a connection to sustainability. The money has to be used within 12 months of winning the award. Exceptions to this 12 month rule will be granted with the permission of the ESAC. Email the rationale for asking for an extension to the ESAC administration support person James Gordon, at jgordon@tru.ca.

Selection Process:

The Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC), which reports jointly to the TRU Board and the Senate, will manage the Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award.

ESAC will grant the award based on the following:

1. Full-time, part-time and sessional faculty members or full-time, part-time or auxiliary staff members are eligible to receive the award.
2. The Selection Committee for the Environmental Achievement Award will consist of:
 - The Chair of ESAC;
 - The Director of the Sustainability Office;
 - The President of the TRU-Eco Club; and
 - Two additional people appointed annually by the ESAC.
3. The Selection Committee will issue calls for nominations during the second week of October and the second week of January each year. The call will go out to all TRU faculty members, staff, and students by email and will be advertised on TRU's website.
4. The Nomination deadline is February 1st of every year.
5. At least one nominator must sign each nomination. Nominations must include a written submission from the nominator(s) outlining specific reasons for the nomination.
6. Nominations must include:
 - a. A statement prepared by the nominator(s) (500 words or less) describing the nominee's contributions to sustainability;
 - b. Relevant materials describing the nominee's sustainability involvement.
7. The selection committee will meet after February 1st and recommend to ESAC at the February meeting the successful candidate. The award will be presented to the recipient at a suitable event prior to the beginning of the next academic year.
8. Award recipients are not eligible for nomination in future years.

Criteria

Nominees should be recognized by staff, students, or faculty as individuals who significantly help to advance sustainability. The Selection Committee will consider an individual's engagement through his/her teaching, scholarly and/or service activity and will make a recommendation regarding the award recipient based on the following criteria:

- Significance of the contribution made by the nominee to environmental sustainability;
- The magnitude of the influence of the contribution (quantitative measures of the effects of the contribution should be provided when possible);
- The breadth of the influence of the contribution (the number of people or groups positively affected);
- Innovation and originality.

