FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WORK

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2003

Purpose and Nature

Nominations are invited for the Faculty of Education and Social Work Teaching Excellence Awards. The purpose of these awards is to recognise the contribution made to teaching excellence and/or research-informed teaching by members of staff across the Faculty. Nominations for the awards are called for towards the end of each semester and awarded annually.

Nominations may be based on teaching or teaching-related activities in one or more units of study. The awards will be based on evidence, provided by students, peers and the nominee regarding undergraduate and/or postgraduate teaching.

Recipients of the awards will be announced at the first Faculty meeting of the following year, to be presented at an appropriate occasion in February. They will receive a framed certificate with citation for contribution to teaching excellence in the Faculty of Education and Social Work. Recipients may also be invited to make a presentation of teaching or teaching-related activities at a Faculty Teaching and Learning seminar at a date to be determined and will be encouraged to submit an application for a Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Teaching the following year.

Scope of the Awards

All full time and part time Faculty staff are eligible for nomination. Individual and team nominations may be made. Previously successful nominees may proceed with a nomination if it is 4 or more years since they received their award.

The awards are open to 2 categories of nomination from individuals or teams:

1. Student initiated nomination. This must be supported by signatures of 20% of unit of study participants or 20 students in a large unit of study and the signature of the relevant Program Director or a colleague familiar with the nominee’s work. In small postgraduate classes of less than ten students, the whole group should agree to the nomination; and

2. Peer initiated nomination. This must be supported by students and have the signature of the relevant Program Director as described in (1) above.

Criteria

Nominees for the award will be assessed on the basis of evidence that supports their claims against the specified criteria. These criteria incorporate an emphasis on the University’s commitment to research-informed teaching.

The award will be made to Faculty members or teams judged to meet excellence in the following areas:

1. Unit of study planning and preparation that demonstrates thorough knowledge of content, current research and developments in the field. (It is accepted that some nominees may not have had the opportunity to provide significant input to the overall planning, particularly in the case of larger units).

2. Presentation of lectures, seminars, tutorials, fieldwork etc that optimise student learning and active participation. Practices should stimulate student curiosity and foster independent learning.

3. Assessment strategies that directly relate to unit of study outcomes, provide constructive feedback to students in a manner that will foster individual competencies and build self-esteem.

4. Strategies for unit evaluation that enable the incorporation of student feedback in future planning and development.

Application Procedure

1. Nomination is initiated by a student or peer using the Faculty nomination form.

2. Nominations with supporting signatures should be submitted to Assoc. Prof. Robyn Ewing (Rm 313), Chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee by the closing dates: Semester 1: June 20; Semester 2: November 21.

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1 Research-informed teaching refers to the “linking of research and teaching and the use of evidence about effective university teaching to enhance the student experience”.

General Announcement