

FACULTY TEACHING AWARD

Description

To encourage and recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)

Eligibility

- This award is intended to recognize individual achievements in teaching and learning. Groups of teachers or teaching units are encouraged to consider the University teaching unit awards.
- Continuing academic staff in Categories A1.1, through A1.6 (inclusive), Temporary academic staff (Categories A2.1 and A2.2) as well as staff in Categories A3.1 and A3.2 (Trust staff) are eligible to apply.¹
- At least three years teaching experience (in courses totaling at least *18 course weight) at the University of Alberta; for temporary staff, three years is defined as contracts in three different academic years²
- Nominees must have been teaching within the last 24 months of the date of nomination
- Each winner is ineligible for reconsideration for the award for the following five years
- Nominators should consider the equity, diversity and inclusivity elements of the University of Alberta's [Strategic Plan for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity](#) and the [Dimensions Charter](#) when developing nominations.

General Criteria and Guidelines

- Exhibits a consistently superior command of the subject matter
- Demonstrates excellent planning and organization in course outlines and objectives, reading and laboratory assignments, handouts, projects, grading schemes, examinations and all other material associated with undergraduate courses
- Instills vital interest in and enthusiasm for the subject on the part of students
- Strongly encourages and fosters independent study
- Generates a desire for continued learning
- Strongly encourages students to be critical, to think independently and to solve problems
- Presents the subject matter at an appropriate level of rigor
- Requires that students have a comprehensive, coherent understanding of the subject matter
- Consistently demonstrates a concern for student progress and is available and approachable for out-of-classroom consultation
- Is a valuable resource for both students and colleagues
- Contributes to and impacts equity, diversity, and inclusivity outside of the scholarly community and/or within the scholarly community

Nomination Package

1. Name of nominee(s) and nominator(s)
2. At least three letters of support from students (former and/or current) and colleagues emphasizing impact of the nominee's teaching effectiveness (templates available)
3. A letter of support from the department chair (template available)

¹Categories are defined as in [Recruitment Policy \(Appendix A\) Definition and Categories of Academic Staff, Administrators and Colleagues](#).

²An academic year is July 1 to June 30

4. A brief statement of the nominee's teaching philosophy (350 word limit)
5. A list of courses taught in the last 5 years
6. Evidence of teaching excellence
7. A description of how the nominee has incorporated EDI into aspects of teaching

Nomination packages should not be longer than 20 pages, and should not include materials such as course outlines, examples of examinations, term work (e.g., term papers/projects, assignments), etc.³ Given that this is an undergraduate teaching award, information about graduate teaching and supervision is not relevant.

Note: If this nomination is intended to be submitted for the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching⁴; competition, further detailed information is needed to the requirements for that award.

Adjudication

This award will be adjudicated by the ALES Awards Committee.

Application Deadline

- Deadline for submission: **November 17, 2023** All nominations/applications are to be sent electronically to Chair, ALES Awards Committee – vic.adamowicz@ualberta.ca

³ External peer evaluations are NOT required for Faculty Teaching Award nominations.

⁴ Nominators are encouraged, however, to assemble and organize these types of teaching materials for candidates in the event that their nomination is successful. Such materials are important for university-level competitions (e.g., Rutherford) so that external peer evaluators are able to properly assess nomination packages.