

CONHS Faculty Excellence Awards

The Presidential Excellence Awards began in 2004 and represent the highest honor given to Valdosta State University faculty member. In keeping with this recognition, the CONHS honors excellence through awards in several areas pertaining to the faculty role. These awards are as follows:

- CONHS Award for Excellence in Student Mentorship
- CONHS Award for Excellence in Teaching
- CONHS Award for Excellence in Professional Activity
- CONHS Award for Excellence in Service
- CONHS Award for Excellence in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

CRITERIA

STUDENT MENTORSHIP

Criteria: The nomination criteria include the following:

- A. Demonstrated high standards of advising effectiveness.
- B. Outstanding or innovative advising techniques.
- C. Positive reputation for advising from the perspective of students, colleagues, and alumni.
- D. Evidence of sustained commitment to advising.
- E. Evidence of high levels of student satisfaction.

TEACHING

Criteria: The nomination criteria include the following:

- A. Demonstrated high standards of teaching effectiveness.
- B. Outstanding or innovative teaching techniques.
- C. Positive reputation for teaching from the perspectives of students, colleagues, and alumni.
- D. Evidence of sustained commitment to teaching.
- E. Evidence of high levels of student learning or achievement.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Criteria: The nomination criteria include the following:

- A. Publication/presentation/research/creative-artistic work
- B. Continued academic growth through courses, workshops, professional conferences, etc.
- C. Active membership/leadership in professional organizations
- D. Grant writing and/or implementation

SERVICE

Criteria: The nomination criteria include the following:

A. Service to the College & University:

1. Serving on college & university committees
 - a. Involvement in Shared Governance
2. Student mentoring
3. Student recruitment
4. Sponsorship of student organizations

B. Service to the Region:

1. Community service in area of expertise
2. Active membership/leadership in community organizations
3. Volunteerism in area of expertise in the region

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for any of the Excellence Awards, nominees must meet or exceed the following requirements:

- Must currently be a full-time faculty member for both semesters of the academic year for which the award is being given. Deans and Program Directors are not eligible for this award.
- Must have completed at least three years of full-time teaching at VSU.
- Must not have received the same award more than once in any three consecutive years.
- May be nominated for more than one VSU Faculty Excellence Award during any academic year.

NOMINATIONS AND SELECTION PROCESS AT CONHS

Nominations may be elicited from self, peers, and/or administration. Nominee acceptance and verification of criteria for the Faculty Excellence Award will be the responsibility of the CONHS Faculty Affairs Committee.

NOMINATIONS AND SELECTION PROCESS AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL

Each Academic College/Division may forward no more than one nominee to the University Committee for review. The University Faculty Excellence Awards Committee will review the nominees submitted by the College/Division Committees and will recommend one nominee for each award to the President.

AWARD SELECTION TIMELINE

Nominations due August 20th to Faculty Affairs Committee.

Acceptance & verification of nominees by Faculty Affairs Committee due by September 1st.

Nomination Portfolio due by October 15th.

Review of Nominee Portfolios by Faculty Affairs Committee due by November 15th

Administration's review of Nominee Portfolios due by January 31st.

The CONHS Faculty Excellence Awards recipients' portfolios should be forwarded to the appropriate University Screening Committee by the end of the second full week in February. The University Screening Committees will review nominees and will select the Presidential Excellence Award recipients by the end of February. VSU Faculty Excellence Award Winners will typically be announced during the spring convocation.

NOMINATION PORTFOLIOS

Nomination portfolios should include the nominee's curriculum vitae in addition to a packet of no more than 20 pages with all items in a 12 point font. Each packet must include the following items:

- A nomination letter from the nominee's immediate supervisor (department head, director, associate dean, or dean), a faculty colleague, or self
- A reflective statement that includes the nominee's philosophy and strategies relevant to the specified category
- Three to four letters of support from those most appropriate to support the nomination in the specified category: professional colleagues either at VSU or in the community or in the discipline, and/or students or alumni
- A well-organized set of documents that provide evidence of the nominee's excellence in the specified category:

For **student mentorship**, these materials could include any mentoring materials (advising evaluations, mentorship activities, etc.);

For **teaching**, these materials could include selected components of course syllabi, handouts, methods of assessing student learning and achievement that go beyond student evaluations, examinations, summaries of recent student evaluations, peer evaluations, student mentoring/advising, etc.

For **professional activity**, these materials could include abstracts or samples of publications/presentations/research/creative-artistic works, descriptions of continued academic growth through courses, workshops, professional conferences, evidence of active membership/leadership in professional organizations, and evidence of grant writing and/or implementation.

For **service**, these materials could include evidence of work in the following areas: serving on institutional committees, academic advising, student recruitment, sponsorship of student organizations, engaging in student activities, involvement in

shared governance, community service in area of expertise, active membership/leadership in community organizations, and volunteerism in the region.

These documents should be accompanied by a **brief explanation** of why they are included in the dossier, i.e., how they document the nominee's excellence in the specified category.

Nomination portfolios should not be placed in folders or binders - staple each copy in the upper left-hand corner. Portfolios that exceed 20 pages (not including the CV) will not be accepted.