

ONLINE TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Description

The Online Teaching Excellence Award is presented annually to an academic staff member in the Werklund School of Education who demonstrates outstanding blended and/or online teaching and learning experiences. A nominee should be an individual who is widely recognized for their teaching and academic inquiry within the School, supports the educational excellence of colleagues, and embodies a spirit of instructional innovation.

Eligibility

- All current Werklund School of Education academic staff (includes all categories of teaching staff, including sessional instructors) are eligible for this award providing they have developed and taught two or more different courses in blended and/or fully online environments, or integrated online learning environments as a significant element of two or more courses.
- Individuals currently registered as graduate students are not eligible for this award.
- An individual is eligible to receive the award once in a five-year period.

Rules and Guidelines

- The nominee must display excellence in the criteria.
- The nomination **MUST** include 2 signed letters of support, with at least one from a former student (an individual or a group letter).
- The nominee is responsible for submitting a complete nomination package to the Chair of the Academic Awards Committee (AAC) by **May 1, 2026**.

Nomination Package

The nomination package consists of the following:

- Nominee to provide evidence for excellence in the criteria. This would include a teaching philosophy statement (1 page), a description of specific teaching strategies and their impact on learning, a summary of data from student feedback and a reflective summary statement. (maximum 10 pages)
- Two signed letters of support (maximum 2 pages each), with at least one being from a former student (individual or group letter).

Use 12pt font and single spacing for all documentation.
Submit all documentation in a single PDF.

Adjudication Criteria

Nominations for the Online Teaching Excellence Award are to be based on a nominee demonstrating excellence per criteria:

Engagement

- Foster learners' critical thinking, independent, and collaborative learning abilities through multiple modes of engagement with course content, peers, and the instructor(s)
- Utilize learning technologies, collaborative learning activities, and tools to promote active learning, achievement of course learning goals, and/or connection with peers
- Collect, reflect upon, and integrate feedback (e.g., student, instructor, and/or peer) on students' learning to further support student learning and one's own professional learning

Course Design

- Design intentional blended and/or online learning experiences that motivate students' engagement and learning, and/or establish relevance of subject matter
- Incorporate multiple forms of content and opportunities for interactions with course materials, learning activities, and/or assessments
- Design thoughtfully integrated assessment strategies and criteria that enhance and support learning and are intended for use in blended and/or online learning environments

Inclusion and Accessibility

- Promote inclusion, student belonging, and accessibility using appropriate teaching strategies, learning technologies, tools, and/or assessment techniques
- Create meaningful opportunities for students to engage with diverse materials and demonstrate knowledge and learning in diverse ways in blended and/or online learning environments

Communication

- Establish multiple pathways of communication and connection between instructor(s), students, and their peers in blended and/or online learning environments
- Communicate clear goals and expectations for engagement in blended and/or online learning environments.

Selection Process

All nomination packages are reviewed by the Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee, with recommendations made to the Academic Awards Committee (AAC).

Recognition

One Online Teaching Award recipient will be announced and presented at an appropriate venue. The award recipient will receive up to \$2,000 to be used (**by June 30, 2027**) towards attending a conference of their choice. A letter will be provided acknowledging the honour from the Werklund School of Education.

Completed nomination packages can be sent to:

Werklund School of Education Awards Selection Committee
c/o Chair of Academic Awards Committee
EDT 1340, 2500 University Dr NW
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4
c/o aeanceli@ucalgary.ca

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Nominations include the following will be reviewed:

- Part 1: Nominee information (this form)
- Part 2: Nominee to provide a nomination dossier with evidence for excellence in the criteria.
This would include a teaching philosophy statement (1 page), a description of specific teaching strategies and their impact on learning, a summary of data from student feedback and a reflective summary statement. (maximum 10 pages)
- Part 3: Two signed letters of support (at least one from a former student). (maximum 2 pages each)

PART 1: NOMINEE INFORMATION

FAMILY NAME:

GIVEN NAME:

EMAIL ADDRESS

DID THE NOMINEE RECEIVE A WERKLUND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION ONLINE TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD IN THE PAST?

Yes

No

If yes, please indicate the year:

PART 2: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED

- Nominee information (this form)
- Nominee to provide a nomination dossier with evidence for excellence in the criteria. This would include a teaching philosophy statement (1 page), a description of specific teaching strategies and their impact on learning, a summary of data from student feedback and a reflective summary statement. (maximum 10 pages)
- Two signed letters of support (at least one from a former student).