

## SESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR AWARD

### Description

The Werklund School of Education awards one Sessional Instructor Teaching Excellence Award annually to a sessional academic staff member who creates outstanding 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 Werklund School of Education sessional academic staff who have taught a minimum of two (2) courses in the School are eligible for this award.
- 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. It is recommended that one letter of support be from a former student.
- The nominee is responsible for submitting a complete nomination package to the Chair of the Awards Committee (AC); nominations will be accepted **until May 1, 2026**.

### Nomination Package

The nomination package consists of the following:

- Evidence for excellence - 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). It is recommended that one letter of support be from a former student.

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

## Adjudication Criteria

Nominations for the Sessional Instructor Award are to be based on a nominee demonstrating evidence of the following criteria:

- Motivate students' interest in learning, and establish relevance of subject matter.
- Set clear goals and expectations for learning in courses and individual learning activities.
- Design learning experiences that actively engage students, and encourage collaboration.
- Challenge learners to develop their critical thinking and independent learning abilities.
- Design student assessment strategies that enhance learning, and are appropriately aligned with intended learning.
- Design strategies to facilitate feedback (e.g., instructor, self, and/or peer) on students' learning to motivate and support progressive learning and growth.
- Exhibit respect for students, which includes showing interest in students' inquiries and ideas.
- Collect feedback, engage in professional learning activities, and reflect on teaching, in order to strengthen their teaching practices and improve student learning.

## Selection Process

All nomination packages are reviewed by the Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee, with recommendations made to the Academic Awards Committee (AAC). All applications will be reviewed based on the criteria.

## Recognition

One Werklund Sessional Instructor 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 T2N1N4  
c/o [aeanceli@ucalgary.ca](mailto:aeanceli@ucalgary.ca)

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Nominations include the following will be reviewed:

- Part 1: Nominee information (this form)
- Part 2: The nomination package needs to include 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 (maximum 2 pages each). It is recommended that one letter of support be from a former student.

PART 1: NOMINEE INFORMATION	
FAMILY NAME:	GIVEN NAME:
EMAIL ADDRESS	
DID THE NOMINEE RECEIVE A WERKLUND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION SESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR AWARD IN THE PAST?	
Yes	No
If yes, please indicate the year:	
PART 2: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nominee information (this form)</li><li>The nomination package needs to include 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)</li><li>Two signed letters of support (maximum 2 pages each). It is recommended that one letter of support be from a former student.</li></ul>	