



THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

2013 Outstanding Teacher Awards

Criteria and Nomination Process

The Awards

The University of Akron will recognize outstanding achievement in teaching by members of our faculty with the University *Outstanding Teacher Award*. To provide encouragement and incentive for continued excellence in teaching, the 2013 awards will include a \$1,000 honorarium as well as \$1,000 for professional development activities.

Eligibility

All full-time University of Akron faculty members currently teaching and employed by the University for at least five years are eligible for consideration for an *Outstanding Teacher Award*. This award requires documented evidence of teaching excellence, as reflected in its impact on student learning and success.

Nomination Process

Nominations may be made by UA students, staff, faculty, or alumni. Self-nominations will not be considered. **Nominations should include a cover letter and a support portfolio, including a current professional vita.** A faculty advisory group of previous award recipients will evaluate all nominations and submit a list of finalists to the Senior Vice President & Provost and COO who will then select two recipients for this year's award.

Nominations must be submitted no later than March 1, 2013; those received thereafter will not be considered.

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2013 Outstanding Teacher Criteria and Nomination Process

General Criteria

The Office of Academic Affairs recognizes that outstanding teaching and scholarship can take many forms. Thus, the following general guidelines are provided to help you identify and formulate nomination letters for potential candidates.

Nomination letters should be no more than three (3) pages long, double-spaced.

An Outstanding University of Akron Teacher demonstrates exceptional:

- **Knowledge/Preparation** – Deep and comprehensive knowledge of his/her discipline or field and a commitment to remaining current in course-related preparation.
- **Instructional Design Skills** – Skill in defining appropriate learning goals, outcomes, and standards; and in developing challenging assignments and assessments consistent with those course goals and outcomes.
- **Teaching Skills** – Skill in communicating course material clearly and effectively to a wide range of UA students; and skill in promoting deep learning (not just rote memorization), including critical and creative thinking.
- **Motivational Skills** – Skill in promoting appreciation of the subject matter and interest in further learning.
- **Creativity** – Ability to adapt/develop new instructional solutions to the ever-changing learning needs and characteristics of UA students.
- **Learner-Centeredness** – Skill in helping UA students discover and achieve their individual educational goals.

Please Submit Nominations by Thursday, March 1, 2013 to:

**Outstanding Teacher Awards Committee
Office of Academic Affairs
Buchtel Hall 102
The University of Akron
Akron, OH 44325-4703**