**DISTINGUISHED EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

**Category: Professional Practice Innovation Award**

**WHAT IS IT FOR?**

The **Professional Practice Innovation Award** is awarded to individuals who have demonstrated an approach that has had excellent impact on the student learning experience at Ulster University. In particular, the individual’s contribution will be directly related to one or more of the Educational Excellence themes and priorities within ***five& fifty***.

The purpose of the Award is to acknowledge and celebrate staff who support learning and teaching excellence and to create a proactive learning community within Ulster where effective practice is disseminated.

**Unlimited Professional Practice Innovation Awards** are available with successful applicants receiving a Certificate in acknowledgement of their achievement.

Recipients will be expected to share their experience and practice with colleagues at Ulster supported by CHERP.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

* Any member of staff who teaches or supports learning at Ulster University
* Applicants should have achieved AFHEA, or another category of HEA fellowship, at the time of making their application.

**HOW TO APPLY?**

Applicants should provide a Case Study (1000 words) on an innovation(s)/ approach(es)which make a transformative effect directly or indirectly on the Ulster student learning experience (see pro forma on CHERP site).

**HOW IS THE AWARD JUDGED?**

The award scheme is judged by a panel including the Dean of Learning Enhancement, representative Associate Dean(s) Education, representatives of CHERP, the Awards’ Manager, representative University National Teaching Fellow and the President of UUSU.

**Criteria**

The Assessment Panel will be looking for the following in successful submissions; applicants should:

* Show evidence of an initiative(s) that demonstrates effective problem solving, enhancement, or innovation in in L&T that aligns to themes and priorities within ***five& fifty***
* Support the claim with independent evidence, such as testimonials (particularly from key stakeholders e.g. students, colleagues), supporting data and/or evidence of effectiveness and impact – (evidence should be integrated throughout the claim and contributes to the word count.)
* Be underpinned by some reference to the professional knowledge base in HE learner support practice.

**WHEN SHOULD YOU APPLY?**

Applications should be received by noon **September 1st 2021**

Submission as a single PDF File to [s.floyd@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:s.floyd@ulster.ac.uk) with the subject line: Professional Practice Innovation Award

**Application Pro-forma – complete Section B in no more than 1000 words in total, supporting evidence must be included within the text. No additional appendices should be included.**

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| **Section A: Contact details** |
| **Name (including title):** |
| **Department:** |
| **Email Address:** |
| **Number of years supporting learners in higher education:** |
| **Summary of Teaching/Supporting Learning Roles and Responsibilities:** |
| **Which Category of HEA fellowship do you hold?**  **Reference Number (on your certificate):** |
| **Line Manager Endorsement:**  *I fully endorse the validity of the claims made in the application for the* **Distinguished Education Excellence Awards**  *(****Professional Practice Award*** *Category):*  **E-Signed** ……………………………………………………………………………  **Name:**  **Position**:  **Contact:** |
| **Complete Section B in no more than 1000 words in total** |
| **Section B: Case Study** |
| **Title:** *meaningful, short descriptive title (to be used in publicity)*  **Summary:** *Brief summary of what the case study covers*.  **Keywords:** *(list 3 key words that reflect the focus of the case study)* |
| **What was done:**  *Please give a brief description of the case study including the* themes and priorities within ***five& fifty*** *it relates to.*  *Explain why you feel this is an example of novel, enhancing, or innovative* *practice.* |
| **Motivation and aims:**  *A brief outline of the reasons behind the practice described - its purpose and benefits. What change was it intended to make or problem was it designed to solve? What professional knowledge did you draw from to underpin your rationale?* |
| **Implementation:**  *An outline of how you carried out the initiative, the approaches you adopted. What professional knowledge did you draw from to underpin your approach?* |
| **Successes and lessons learnt:**  *Reflect on what worked well, any particular challenges faced and how these were addressed. Comment on the approach taken to evaluation and understanding the impact and effectiveness of the practice described. What did students think about your approach? Include evidence to support your understanding of its effectiveness.*  *Please also say if you are planning any changes or further developments.* |
| **Transferability:**  *Is this practice transferable? Have you shared your experiences with colleagues? What would your advice be to others thinking of adopting your approach? Do you have any evidence of colleagues adopting your approach?* |
| **Further information:**  *e.g. links to website or publications* |