**DISTINGUISHED EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

**Category: Sustained Educational Excellence Award**

**WHAT IS IT FOR?**

The **Sustained Educational Excellence Award** is awarded to individuals who have been teaching/supporting learning in HE for more than **four years** and can demonstrate a sustained body of outstanding practices that have impacted significantly on students and influenced the practice of peers within the 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*** and will focus on initiative(s) that demonstrates highly effective problem solving, influence, enhancement, or innovation in L&T.

The purpose of the award is to recognise, reward and celebrate those who can demonstrate sustained teaching/ supporting learning excellence and to create a proactive learning community within Ulster.

**Up to two awards** are normally available and the award of **£1000** to successful applicants should be used to support the recipients’ CPD in learning and teaching.

**Sustained Educational Excellence Award** recipients will be expected to share their experience and practice with colleagues at Ulster supported by CHERP. They will be expected to provide ongoing leadership in L&T through involvement in CHERP initiatives and mentoring colleagues.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

* Any member of staff who teaches or supports learning at Ulster University and has been teaching/ supporting learning in HE for four years or more.
* Applicants should have achieved SFHEA at the time of making their application.

**HOW TO APPLY?**

Applicants should provide a 3000 word Reflective Statement on their sustained contribution to excellence in teaching/ learning support demonstrating how they have had a transformative effect on student learning. This should evidence a sustained body of outstanding practices that have impacted significantly on students and influenced the practice of peers (see pro forma on CHERP site).

Submissions should be endorsed by the applicant’s Line Manager to confirm the veracity of the claims made within the application.

**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; applicants should:

* Demonstrate a significant contribution to the Ulster University community as part of this application.
* Show evidence of **Individual Excellence**: sustained evidence of enhancing and transforming the student learning experience commensurate with the individual’s context and the opportunities afforded by it that demonstrates highly effective problem solving, enhancement, or innovation in L&T that aligns to themes and priorities within ***five& fifty***
* Show evidence of **Promoting Excellence** through influencing the practice of peers: evidence of supporting colleagues and influencing support for student learning; demonstrating impact and engagement beyond the applicant’s immediate academic or professional role.
* Show agency in **Developing Excellence**: evidence of the applicant’s commitment to her/his ongoing professional development with regard to teaching and learning and/or learning support.
* Support the claim with independent evidence, such as testimonials (particularly from students), 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 academic practice as evidence of scholarship in learning and teaching.

**WHEN TO 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: Sustained Educational Excellence Award

**Application Pro-forma – complete Section B&C in no more than 3000 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):** |
| **School/Department:** |
| **Email Address:** |
| **Number of years teaching/ supporting learning 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** *(***Sustained Educational Excellence Award** *category*  **E-Signed** ……………………………………………………………………………  **Name:**  **Position**:  **Contact:** |
| **Complete Section B&C in no more than 3000 words in total** |
| **Section B: Your Teaching/ Learning Support Approach:** |
| *Please provide a brief introductory reflection on your overall approach to enhancing the student learning experience (no more than 200 words) e.g. a reflection on your values and beliefs in relation to the work you do; what has influenced you in your practice; your beliefs about your role in enhancing the student learning experience?* |
| **Section C: Reflective Narrative**  **Each section is equally weighted, delete the italicised prompts before you do your final word count** |
| **Reflect on how you demonstrate:**  ***Individual excellence****: sustained evidence of enhancing and transforming the student learning experience commensurate with your context and the opportunities afforded by it that demonstrates highly effective problem solving, enhancement, or innovation in L&T that aligns to themes and priorities within* ***five& fifty***  *You may wish to consider how you evidence some of the following:*   * *stimulating students’ curiosity and interest in ways which inspire a commitment to learning;* * *organising and presenting high quality resources in accessible, coherent and imaginative ways which in turn clearly enhance students’ learning;* * *recognising and actively supporting the full diversity of student learning needs;* * *draw upon the results of relevant research, scholarship and professional practice in ways which add value to teaching and students’ learning;* * *engage with and contributing to the established literature or your own evidence base for teaching and learning.* |
| **Reflect on how you demonstrate:**  *Evidence of* ***Promoting Excellence*** *through* *influencing the practice of peers: evidence of supporting colleagues and influencing support for student learning; demonstrating impact and engagement beyond your immediate academic or professional role.*  *You may wish to consider how you evidence some of the following:*   * *making outstanding contributions to colleagues’ professional development in relation to promoting and enhancing student learning;* * *contributing to departmental/faculty/institutional/national initiatives to facilitate student learning;* * *contributing to and/or supporting meaningful and positive change with respect to pedagogic practice, policy and/or procedure.* |
| **Reflect on how you demonstrate:**  Agency in **Developing Excellence**: *planning your own development as an educational expert: evidence of your commitment to ongoing professional development with regard to teaching and learning and/or learning support and how this has impacted on your practice.*  *You may wish to consider how you evidence some of the following:*   * *on-going review and enhancement of your professional practice;* * *engaging in professional development activities which enhanced your expertise in teaching and learning support or led to specific contributions to significant improvements in the student learning experience.* |