

Distinguished Teaching Award

The Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology Distinguished Teaching Award is designed to encourage, reward, and publicly acknowledge sustained excellence in teaching by members of the College's faculty. The award recognizes excellence in teaching practices that reflect the highest standards in pedagogy, a record of outstanding teaching effectiveness within and outside the classroom, the ability to inspire, promote, and sustain the intellectual development of students, course and program development, fostering of critical thinking and independent inquiry of students.

Eligibility

Any full-time teaching faculty, lecturer/senior lecturer, or non-tenure track professorial ranked faculty with a minimum of 3 years of service at Kennesaw State University is eligible to apply for the award. Administrators with faculty rank are ineligible for faculty awards (i.e., receives a Contract for Faculty Ranked Administrators). In other words, only faculty members who have been issued a fiscal or academic year Tenured Personnel, Non-Tenured Personnel, or Non-Tenure Track Personnel contract are eligible for this award. Award winners are eligible to reapply once every 3 years. Award recipients must be under contract at KSU when the award is presented.

Award

The award consists of a plaque.

Number and Frequency of Awards

Up to two (2) awards may be presented annually, as well as up to two honorable mentions. However, if there are a lack of outstanding candidates, an award may not be granted.

Award Criteria

The following are non-ranked examples of accomplishments that may be included as evidence.

- Evidence of consistent excellent teaching;
- Student success and/or accomplishments;
- Advising and/or mentoring of students (e.g., internships, directed studies, study abroad);
- Mentoring of another faculty;
- Evidence of reflective teaching;
- Intellectually rigorous, creative, and engaging pedagogy;
- Teaching workshops, invited talks, or presentations;
- External awards and recognitions by local, national, and international organizations for teaching excellence;
- Sustained contributions to curriculum development, and/or innovative instructional techniques and technologies.

Nomination Procedures

Nominations can be made by faculty, students, staff, or self. Applications are submitted by their Department Chairs. There are no limits on the number of nominees each department can submit.

Application packets should include:

- A completed Cover Sheet;
- A summary statement up to 2 pages by the nominee highlighting his/her excellence in teaching in relation to the award criteria; The summary must be created using 12-point Times New Roman font single spaced with one-inch margins;
- Documentation showing the recognition the nominee's teaching has received e.g., awards and recognitions by local, national, and international organizations for teaching excellence;
- A current 2 – 3 page curriculum vitae;
- Up to 5 documented exemplars of outstanding teaching (e.g., syllabi, activities, assessments, peer reviews, and summary of teaching evaluations);
- A maximum of two letters in support of the nomination; one must be from the department chair; and
- All materials must be compiled into a single pdf document.

Evaluation Criteria and Procedures

The College Awards Committee will look for originality, creativity, productivity, and for evidence of outstanding teaching and mentoring. Factors to be considered will also include teaching load, course level, and some form of the evaluation of teaching from students and colleagues. Nominations will be evaluated by a college committee including one member from each of the department colleges. Because members serving on this committee may not be experts in the nominee's field, it is important that nominations be submitted in language understandable to faculty in other disciplines.