



**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
2009-2010
2010-2011**

CHANCELLOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

In

FACULTY SERVICE

LIBRARIANSHIP

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

AND

TEACHING

NATURE OF THE PROGRAM

The Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are System-level honors conferred to acknowledge and provide system-wide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence. These programs underscore SUNY's commitment to sustaining intellectual vibrancy, advancing the boundaries of knowledge, providing the highest quality of instruction, and serving the public good. Through these awards, SUNY publicly proclaims its pride in the accomplishment and personal dedication of its instructional faculty, librarians and professional staff across its campuses. The awards provide SUNY-wide recognition in five categories: Faculty Service, Librarianship, Professional Service, Scholarship and Creative Activities, and Teaching.

REWARDS OF SELECTION

Individuals selected for this tribute are the SUNY community's role models. In acknowledgment of their selection, recipients will be given recognition for the particular award received in the college catalogue by the addition of the phrase "State University Chancellor's Award for Excellence in ..." A letter, certificate and a Chancellor's Award for Excellence Medallion are also bestowed to commemorate selection. In addition, campuses are encouraged to supplement these commemoratives as appropriate to campus resources. Frequently, those selected are honored by their campuses during commencement, at academic convocations, or at special events hosted in honor of their selection.

CAMPUS PARTICIPATION

All State University of New York campuses may nominate candidates for these Awards: doctoral degree granting institutions, university colleges, technology colleges, and community colleges. Campus participation in the programs, however, is at the discretion of the campus president.

NUMBER OF NOMINATIONS (NOMINATION ALLOCATIONS)

A limit is placed on the number of candidates a campus may submit to each program in order to preserve the honor and prestige of selection. These caps are formula-driven and based on the ratio to campus Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students shown below:

Librarianship	Faculty Service, Professional Service & Scholarship and Creative Activities	Teaching
1 per 7,000 FTEs	1 per 5,000 FTEs	1 per 2,000 FTEs

Regardless of the ratio, each campus may submit one nomination to each program annually. The number of nominations allocated to each campus is appended to these guidelines. Nomination allocations are not interchangeable from program to program, nor can they be carried forward from year to year. Campuses submitting more than their allocation of nominations will have all nominations returned without review.

There is no requirement to nominate annually, nor will the absence of submissions in any cycle be detrimental to campus nominations made in subsequent cycles.

CANDIDATE CHARACTERISTICS

Individuals nominated for these awards must meet all prescribed eligibility criteria and must fulfill – and preferably surpass – the selection criteria for the specific award for which they are being nominated. In all cases, candidates must be individuals of achievement, committed to the State University and its students, respected by the campus community and worthy of emulation by colleagues and students on the home campus and across the entire System.

ELIGIBILITY

Each award has program-specific eligibility criteria; nonetheless, there are eligibility criteria common to all. **Regardless of program, nominees must have completed three academic years of full-time appointment out of the five years just prior to the year of nomination.** Individuals serving in part-time, or any qualified academic rank, such as adjunct, clinical, or visiting capacities – irrespective of length of their service or amount of their involvement – are ineligible for these programs.

GENERAL RESTRICTIONS ON ELIGIBILITY

There are also circumstances that preclude nomination regardless of the program. The following are special conditions that limit eligibility and these restrictions apply to all programs:

- Individuals holding Distinguished Faculty Rank – Distinguished Librarian, Distinguished Professor, Distinguished Service Professor and Distinguished Teaching Professor – may not be nominated for an Excellence Award in the category for which Distinguished Faculty Rank was conferred (e.g., a Distinguished Teaching Professor may not be nominated for the Excellence in Teaching Award);
- Recipients of an Excellence Award may not be nominated for another Excellence Award within a five-year interval;
- Recipients of an Excellence Award may not be re-nominated for an award in the same category;
- Individuals holding qualified academic appointments (as defined in SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals holding the title of lecturer or titles of academic rank preceded by the designation “visiting” or other similar designations) may not be nominated;
- The chief campus officer for academic, student, or administrative affairs, or persons serving in these capacities, may not be nominated for an Excellence Award. Therefore, the Chancellor, Vice Chancellors, Campus Presidents, Vice Presidents and Deans of the College of Ceramics at Alfred University and the New York State Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, of Human Ecology, of Industrial and Labor Relations and of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University are ineligible for nomination;
- Individuals should not be nominated in the same season for promotion to distinguished faculty rank and an Excellence Award in the same category (e.g., an individual should not be nominated for a Distinguished Teaching Professorship and an Excellence in Teaching award); and
- Posthumous nominations are ineligible.

PROGRAM SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

EXCELLENCE IN FACULTY SERVICE – (EIFS)

Nature of the Program – EIFS

The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service recognizes the consistently superior service contributions of **teaching faculty**. This service must be sustained over multiple years and may occur in a variety of venues.

Criteria for Selection – EIFS

To be nominated, a faculty member must demonstrate consistently superior service. Eligible service contributions may occur in a variety of areas including service to the campus, the State University, the local community or contributions at the regional, state-wide, national or international levels. Eligible activities may encompass a combination of service contributions to discipline or disciplinary and professional organizations and societies; and to leadership in local or system-wide faculty governance.

The nature of the service **must exceed** the work generally considered to be part of a candidate's basic professional obligation (professional committees, etc.) and **must include service that exceeds that for which faculty are normally compensated**. There must be positive evidence of outstanding achievement and skill in providing leadership, outreach, or other University and/or community service or extraordinary service and leadership in the nominee's professional organization.

The scope of the service must extend over multiple years, must be geared toward effecting positive change and must involve the generous giving of personal time in service to areas previously described.

Candidates for this award must be full-time teaching/instructional faculty who meet, and preferably exceed, the selection criteria, and who also demonstrate initiative and creativity in exceeding these standards.

Eligibility – EIFS

Academic Background – Candidates must be full-time teaching faculty for the academic year in which the award is to be given and regularly carry a full-time teaching load as defined by the campus for full-time teaching. **(The definition of a full teaching load varies from campus to campus, but each campus should be satisfied that there can be no question that its nominee meets this criterion. Teachers of studio courses or other specialized courses in which credit hours are normally low are to be considered in terms of the full-time load normally expected for the discipline.)**

The significance of having the campus define "full-time" teaching is particularly relevant in the case of Department chairs. Campuses frequently provide course reductions for faculty serving in such capacities. If the reduction is applied uniformly, then this reduced load becomes "full-time" for that particular position. Individuals serving in this capacity may be nominated for the award contingent upon their carrying the campus-defined, full-time teaching load for persons performing such administrative responsibilities (e.g., if a campus defines 15 hours as a full-time teaching load for full-time faculty, and 12 hours as a full-time teaching load for Department chairs, then an individual serving as a Department chair and teaching the 12

hours and meeting the other eligibility requirements would be eligible for nomination). **One caveat: teaching requirements must constitute more than 50 percent of the position's responsibility. Otherwise, the individual should be considered for the Excellence in Professional Service Award.**

Academic Rank – Nominees for the award may hold any academic rank (as defined in SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals holding the title of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor or assistant instructor). ¹

Length of Service – Nominees must have completed at least three academic years of full-time service out of the five years on the home campus immediately prior to the year of nomination.

Restrictions – Individuals holding qualified academic appointments (as defined in SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals holding the title of lecturer or titles of academic rank preceded by the designation “visiting” or other similar designations) **may not** be nominated. ²

EXCELLENCE IN LIBRARIANSHIP (EIL)

Nature of the Program – EIL

The Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Librarianship recognizes consistently superior professional achievement in the field of librarianship.

Selection Criteria – EIL

Nominees for the award must have demonstrated **extraordinary** performance in the following areas:

Skill in Librarianship – There must be positive evidence that the candidate performs superbly in fulfilling his or her librarianship duties. Consideration should be given to the candidate's ability to perform this function in a creative and innovative fashion that is of outstanding quality.

Service to the University and to the Profession – In providing librarianship services, the candidate must be generous with personal time and easily accessible. The individual must be flexible and adapt readily to the needs of the library, the institution and the constituents served.

Scholarship and Continuing Professional Growth – The candidate must keep abreast of developments in the field and use relevant contemporary data in relation to that person's work situation. Evidence in this category should include references to publications, membership and work in professional organizations, attendance at meetings, seminars, etc.

¹ *The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees – 2001 – Article II §1 (j).*

² *The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees – 2001 Article II § 1 (k)*

Eligibility Criteria – EIL

Academic Background – Candidates must hold full-time appointment as a faculty librarian and must possess an MLS degree.

Academic Rank – Candidates may hold any academic rank (as defined in the SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals having the titles of librarian, associate librarian, senior assistant librarian and assistant librarian).³

Length of Service – Candidates must have completed at least three academic years in full-time appointment out of the five years as a professional librarian at the nominating campus immediately prior to the year of nomination.

Restrictions – Individuals serving as head of the campus library – or of all the libraries for institutions with multiple libraries – are also ineligible for nomination. (However, the head of the library may be eligible for the Excellence in Professional Service Award if this individual satisfies the other selection and eligibility criteria for that award.) Individuals holding qualified academic appointment (as defined in the SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals having the titles of academic rank preceded by the designations “visiting” or other similar designations) may not be nominated.⁴

EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (EIPS)

Nature of the Program – EIPS

The Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service recognizes consistently superior professional achievement within and beyond the position.

Selection Criteria – EIPS

Nominees for the award must be individuals who have repeatedly sought improvement of themselves, their campuses and ultimately the State University and, in doing so, have transcended the normal definitions of excellence. **At all position levels**, nominees shall be those individuals who can serve as professional role models for a University system in the pursuit of excellence. The following criteria shall be used in selecting persons for nomination of this award:

Within the Position Description – The candidate must perform superbly in fulfilling the job description for the position held; and

Beyond the Position Description – The candidate should also demonstrate excellence in professional activities **beyond** the parameters of the job description. The ideal candidate will satisfy the standards in a creative and innovative fashion while demonstrating flexibility and adapt ability to institutional needs. Consideration should be given to capabilities and accomplishments in the areas of leadership, decision making and problem solving. Evidence in this category includes, but is not limited to, professional recognitions, initiation of ideas, development of proposals, and committee activities.

³ *The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees – 2001 – Article II - §1 (j)*

⁴ *The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees – 2001 Article II, § 1(k)*

Eligibility Criteria – EIPS

Candidate Background – Candidates must presently be serving in full-time professional service capacities (**not necessarily titles**) with more than 50 percent of their assignment in non-teaching services. The latter include academic administration, business affairs, student affairs, institutional support technologies, instructional and research support technologies and directors of campus libraries.

Length of Service – Candidates must have completed three academic years of full-time professional service out of the five years in the position for which they are nominated immediately prior to the year of nomination.

Restrictions – Individuals serving in the classified services are ineligible for nomination (one indicator: positions paid on an hourly rather than salary basis are generally in the classified services).

Please note that for the Community Colleges, individuals serving as heads of divisions (frequently referred to as Deans) may be nominated predicated on their fulfilling the eligibility and selection criteria. However, for this sector, the title “Dean of Instruction” frequently refers to the individual who serves as the head campus academic officer. Where this is the case, the individual may not be nominated.

Special Considerations for the Professional Service Award

Exclusively for the Excellence in Professional Service Award, nominations may be made by not-for-profit agencies serving a University function at one of the organizational units (e.g., the campus Research Foundation offices, etc.) of the State University of New York. Any such nominations count toward the total allocations permissible for the nominating campus. For the purposes of the Professional Service Award, the State University System Administration is considered a campus. It may make one nomination drawn from the aggregate of eligible staff at the System Administration, the Construction Fund, and the Research Foundation.

EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES (EISCA)

Nature of the Program – EISCA

The Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities supports the pursuits foundational to sustaining the intellectual growth of SUNY institutions by recognizing consistently outstanding scholarly and creative productivity, **conducted in addition to teaching, by SUNY’s instructional faculty.**

Selection Criteria – EISCA

Evidence of sound scholarship (traditionally research and publication in the sciences and humanities) and creative productivity (in fields where scholarship takes the form of artistic production, performance, composition, etc.) can be demonstrated through a variety of avenues, including grants, release time, honors, etc. The selection criteria for this award shall include a reasonable combination of, but not be restricted to, those appearing below. Nominees should be individuals who have:

For Scholarship (research in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities) -- An excellent, sustained record of research publications in peer-reviewed journals, and/or research monographs, and/or research-oriented texts; or a record of presenting at national and/or international conferences, presentation of papers published in conference proceedings and/or digests, patents awarded, grants secured, and citation of work by individuals or groups other than the nominee's collaborators.

For Creative Productivity (generally the fine or performing arts or those fields where creative productivity constitutes scholarship e.g., culinary arts, etc.) – A record of excellence in creative activity appropriate for the specific field or discipline, such as exhibitions, shows, performances, productions, and stage work; or a record demonstrating evidence of critical reviews, grants, inclusion of works in permanent collections, retrospectives, and other forms of external recognition and acclaim.

Eligibility Criteria – EISCA

Academic Background – Candidates must be full-time teaching, tenured or tenure-track faculty. **(Note: Please see full discussion of this issue above under “Academic Background” section for the EIFS Award.)**

Academic Rank – Candidates may hold any academic rank (as defined in SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals holding the title of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor or assistant instructor).⁵

Length of Service – Candidates must have completed at least three academic years of full-time service out of the five years (the program intent is on instruction/research) on the home campus immediately prior to the year of nomination.

Restrictions – Individuals holding qualified academic appointments (as defined in SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals holding the title of lecturer or titles of academic rank preceded by the designation “visiting” or other similar designations) may not be nominated.⁶

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING (EIT)

Nature of the Program – EIT

The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching recognizes consistently superior teaching at the graduate, undergraduate, or professional level in keeping with the State University's commitment to providing its students with instruction of the highest quality.

Selection Criteria – EIT

The primary criterion is skill in teaching. Additionally, consideration is also given to sound scholarship (usually demonstrated through publications or artistic productions), outstanding service to students, as well

⁵ *The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees – 2001 Article II § 1 (j)*

⁶ *The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees – 2001 Article II § 1 (k)*

as service to the University and to the campus. The following criteria are to be used in selecting nominees for this Award:

Teaching Techniques and Representative Materials – There must be positive evidence that the candidate performs superbly in the classroom. The nominee must maintain a flexible instructional policy that adapts readily to student needs, interests and problems. Mastery of teaching techniques must be demonstrated and substantiated. Consideration is to be given to the number of substantially different courses taught, the number of students per course, and the different teaching techniques employed in the various courses.

When available, student evaluations (in the form of student questionnaires administered and compiled by persons other than the nominee) presented for several different courses over a period of several recent years may provide a clear idea of the nominee's impact on students.

Scholarship and Professional Growth – Candidates must be teacher/scholars who keep abreast of their own field and who use the relevant contemporary data from that field and related disciplines in their teaching. Evidence in this area includes, but is not limited to, publications, grants, presentations at conferences, artistic productions, etc.

Student Services – In relating to students, candidates must be generous with personal time, easily accessible, and must demonstrate a continual concern for the intellectual growth of individual students. The focus here is the accessibility of the nominee to students outside of class; e.g. office hours, conferences, special meetings, and the nominee's responsibility in terms of student advisement.

Academic Standards and Requirements, and Evaluation of Student Performance –

Candidates must set high standards for students and help them attain academic excellence.

Quantity and quality of work that is more than average for the subject must be required of the students. Candidates must work actively with individual students to help them improve their scholarly or artistic performance. This individual interaction is an important source of information that indicates the nature and level of instruction offered by the nominee. Consideration is to be given to the quality, quantity, and difficulty of the tasks or work assigned to students.

Candidates' evaluations of students' work must be strongly supported by evidence. Candidates must be willing to give greater weight to each student's final level of competence than to the performance at the beginning of the course. Since expert teachers enable students to achieve high levels of scholarship, it is possible that the candidates' marking records may be somewhat above average. There must also be evidence that candidates do not hesitate to give low evaluations to students who do poorly. For this category, consideration should be given to grading patterns, particularly grade distributions for all courses in at least two recent years. Evidence in support of student performance may also be assessed by the accomplishments of students, including placement and achievement levels.

Eligibility Criteria - EIT

Academic Background – Candidates must be full-time teaching, tenured or tenure-track faculty. **(Note: Please see full discussion of this issue above under “Academic Background” section for the EIFS Award.)**

Academic Rank – Candidates may hold any full-time academic rank (as defined in SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals holding the title of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor or assistant instructor).⁷

Length of Service – Candidates must have completed three academic years of full-time teaching out of the five years on the nominating campus immediately prior to the year of nomination.

Restrictions – Individuals holding qualified academic appointments (as defined in SUNY Board of Trustees policies: individuals holding the title of lecturer or titles of academic rank preceded by the designation “visiting” or other similar designations) may not be nominated.⁸

Because of the confidentiality of these proceedings, the System-level Program Leader of these awards will interact only with the campus president or the president’s designee.

REVIEW AT THE SYSTEM-LEVEL

Each nomination will be reviewed for compliance with the SUNY-wide criteria for selection and eligibility. This means that each nominee’s portfolio will be examined to confirm the individual’s eligibility and to ensure that the portfolio contains **substantive evidence (as opposed to testimonials)** in support of each selection criterion for the particular award. This evidence is critical to recommendation. **Omission can lead (and has led) to non-recommendation of candidates.**

Where a candidate is not being recommended for selection, the campus president or the president’s designee will be contacted confidentially and offered the option of providing the information sought by reviewers or of withdrawing the nomination. Contact with the president will be made prior to making award recommendations to the Chancellor.

After review, nominees supported for this honor will have their name forwarded to the Chancellor through the Office of the Provost/System Administration. Selection is contingent upon approval of recommendations by the Chancellor. **SUNY Board of Trustees action is not involved in the Excellence Awards process.**

Failure by a campus to comply with the procedures established for the selection of nominees will result in the disqualification of all nominees from that institution.

SUPPORT FILE

⁷ *The State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees – 2001 Article II § 1(j)*

⁸ *The State University of New York Policies of the board of Trustees – 2001 Article II §1(k)*

The campus selection committee is responsible for preparing the nomination portfolio submitted to System Administration. For each nominee, the campus must submit *one original* of the nomination portfolio. It must be collated in the order presented below and must include the following:

Checklist Cover Sheet – This form **must be the first sheet of the nominee's portfolio**. It is used to ensure compliance with program policies and procedures and for administrative purposes. (The form is appended to these guidelines.) The Checklist contains the certifications regarding the candidate's eligibility and campus compliance with the program Policies and Procedures. **The campus president must sign the checklist. Nominations received without this endorsement will receive technical disqualifications.**

Transmittal Letter – A brief transmittal letter addressing how the candidate meets the selection criteria is required from the campus president. This letter should reflect the campus's rationale for making the nomination and speak succinctly to the candidate's merit. The letter should be addressed to the State University Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. David Lavallee. **A separate letter is to accompany each nomination.**

Nomination Procedures – A brief explanation is required that describes the mechanism by which nominations were solicited, what evidence was examined by the local selection committee in the evaluation of nominees, and how the local committee arrived at its selection.

Summary Presentation – The Summary Presentation provides the rationale for the campus's nomination of a particular candidate and sets forth candidate merit for selection. It should reflect the committee's objectivity and impartiality in coming to its decision in what is generally a highly competitive campus process.

The Summary Presentation is the only documentation available to those involved in the System-level review to explain the campus' rationale for nominating the candidate for this honor. It **must** address how the candidate **excels in each criterion for selection** for the award to which the candidate is nominated (e.g., if there are three selection criteria, then candidate's performance in each must be described), the candidate's most outstanding qualifications and major achievements attained. The quality of the evidence provided is critical to recommendation. Although excerpts from the recommendations can and should be included, the Summary Presentation must be more than a testimonial. There must be specific, concrete examples of how the nominee fulfills each criterion.

Summary Presentations should not be written by the nominee (or in first person) because this undermines the impartiality and objectivity required of the nomination process. The Summary Presentation is limited to a maximum of five pages, excluding the cover sheet.

- **Vita** – An up-to-date and moderately detailed vita containing information on the nominee's career must be included in the nomination portfolio. Specific data must **include the date of appointment to the SUNY system, highest rank attained and date of appointment to that rank**. It should also include areas of specialization, research activities, professional and scholarly publications, honors, and campus and State University service.

Note: None of the nominating documentation will be returned to the campus.