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Excellence in Teaching Award

The annual Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes exemplary university instruction by tenure/tenure track faculty. Since our primary mission is to assist students in identifying their talents and interests, and to facilitate students' intellectual growth through intense practice and effective mentoring, quality university teaching is the most important characteristic of our community of scholars. Outstanding faculty named for this honor will receive a commemorative medallion and a $5000 award.

Eligibility

To be considered for this award a faculty member must be full-time and have completed five years of university service at Sam Houston State University in a tenure-track faculty position. Having been granted tenure is not a prerequisite for consideration; past recipients are ineligible for subsequent awards.

Process

Since the number of nominees has traditionally been several hundred, the committee will "narrow the field" with the goal of enabling a fair and close evaluation by the committee. Subsequently, a final group of three to six candidates will be extensively reviewed by each committee member using the following guidelines:

As a first step in the process, the committee will gather names of the nominees and request from the Registrar's Office a list of the number of students each candidate taught in the preceding academic year

Procedure

For each review step the committee, through consultations with the previous year's committee, will carefully define the evaluation criteria with a weighted scale for each criterion. To take advantage of the diversity of faculty perspective, each committee member may independently set the series of weights for the criteria. To improve the review process, the individual rankings or reviews will be shared with the full committee. Reviewers will be allowed to question and defend criterion weights and results for individual candidates. Openness and free discussion of considerations are important to the process.

“Scholarly and creative accomplishments” is defined as published or performed original and/or creative works appropriate to

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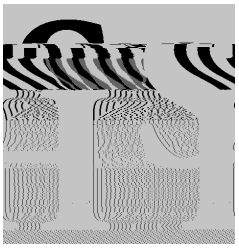

Sam Houston State University

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Huntsville, TX 77341

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