



THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS  
DENTAL BRANCH  
AT HOUSTON

## DEAN'S TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston Dean's Teaching Excellence Award serves to annually recognize individual faculty for outstanding teaching performance. Such teaching of the award winners rises above good teaching by inciting intellectual curiosity in the students, engaging them in the learning process and generates life-long learning skills. The awards will honor those faculty who have sustained a high level of teaching over a period of several years as demonstrated by their current Merit Review.

- Highest priority for the awards will be given to those faculty members who make public their scholarship of Innovation, Teaching, or Engagement beyond the Dental Branch through publications, presentations, workshops, CE, or consultation to other departments within the school and especially to those audiences external to the school such as professional organizations including ADEA, AADR, IADR and discipline-specific organizations.

Four categories of awards will be available for faculty nomination. They are:

- The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for *Innovation* in Teaching
- The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for *Scholarship* in Teaching
- The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for the Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration
- The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for *Volunteer* Faculty

These awards provide an opportunity for Dental Branch faculty who meet designated standards of scholarship and excellence by demonstrating the quality, quantity, and breadth of their form of scholarship to receive recognition for their exemplary educational contributions to the school.

- Recipients of these awards will serve as a distinguished educator role model for learners at all levels in the institution.

Being a recipient of the award will be viewed positively in promotions and tenure decisions. Given the central role of peer review in the process of selecting recipients of these awards, the **receipt of the award will inform the promotion process** through the evaluation of scholarship for the promotion and tenure portfolio similar to what peer review by NIH study sections and DB Merit Reviews provide in the area of research.

### **Dean's Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars**

Recipients of these awards will be given a four-year membership in the Dean's Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars. Membership will allow the awardees to:

- Participate in annual Academy events (e.g., celebration reception)
- Serve as mentor to junior faculty and other leadership opportunities
- Collaborate with the Office of Educational Research and Professional Development to provide timely workshops related to teaching and learning of need and interest to Dental Branch faculty
- Expand research opportunities by participating in educational studies of the teaching and learning environment
- Receive direct communication from the Office of Educational Research and Professional Development about important educational issues and events

Dental Branch faculty who are members of the University of Texas Academy of Health Science Education and any faculty member who has won the President's Award for Teaching Excellence will be included in the Dean's Academy.

The Academy will be supported by the Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee and the Office of Educational Research and Professional Development.

#### **To assist in this process please use the following guidelines and resources:**

- Process and Criteria for the Dean's Teaching Excellence Award.
  - Written nomination
  - Written statement from nominee
- The Annual Faculty Evaluation and Activity Report, and supporting documentation including peer, student and post-graduate evaluations.
- Current Curriculum Vitae of nominee

All full and part-time salaried and volunteer faculty are eligible for the awards. All awardees will be acknowledged during the Dental Branch Graduation Ceremony. To assist the Dean's office in compiling the final list for printing the awards and certificates, the following information must be included in any recommendation:

Faculty Nominee Name  
 Type of Degree/s  
 Academic Rank  
 Department Affiliation  
 Type of Award

## Process and Criteria for the Dean's Teaching Excellence Award

### Process

1. The Dean calls for the nomination at the conclusion of the Annual Faculty Evaluation and Merit Review Process. Only activities during the last academic year may be included.
2. Each Departmental Annual Review Committee, which oversees the selection process and recommends award recipients, may be elected by the faculty in that department or appointed by the chair on an annual basis.
3. Nominations for the award can be made by a team of two faculty members from any department; the Departmental Annual Review Committee; the Department Chair, or a Senior Administrator.
  - All nominations should be guided by the Criteria listed in Appendix 1.
  - Faculty may not nominate themselves for this award.
  - A faculty member may only be nominated for one award annually.
4. All faculty who satisfy the criteria are eligible for nomination.
5. Each person or group who nominates a faculty member must write a statement detailing the faculty member's teaching accomplishments related to one of the four categories of the Dean's Teaching Excellence Award (no more than one page) and provide supporting documentation that may consist of one or more of the supporting documents listed in the Criteria section.
  - **A nominee must submit a one - two page written statement of his or her teaching accomplishments plus supporting documentation to facilitate the review process.**
  - **No award will be granted without this supporting documentation.**
6. The Department Chair will review all nominations that are provided by:
  - a team of two faculty members from the nominee's department
  - a team of two faculty members that includes a faculty member from the department and another faculty member from another department
  - the Departmental Annual Review Committee
  - a DB Senior Administrator

The Department Chair may offer a dissenting opinion. However, all nominations from the department's Annual Review Committee with supporting documentation will be forwarded to the Dean for final consideration.

7. All valid nominations (see #3 - 6 above) will be submitted to the Dental Branch Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee (FD&E) for peer review in collaboration with the Dean. Based upon the review, up to two winners in each of the following categories will be chosen.

- **The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for *Innovation in Teaching***

- The Scholarship of Innovation in Teaching involves the exchange ideas about teaching and learning and the use of these ideas to meet the challenges of educating students and postgraduates for personal, professional, and civic life.
  - SOURCE: The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 2007.

- **The Scholarship of Innovation in Teaching** can be demonstrated by the:

- Making public beyond the Dental Branch the investigation, evaluation and outcomes of the Scholarship of Innovation in Teaching
- Development of innovative strategies and methods of integration of all layers of teaching such as DDS/post-graduate courses and clinics
- Development of innovative strategies and methods of interdisciplinary teaching
- Development of innovative teaching or evaluation materials or methods such as:
  - novel uses of the simulation clinic, digital radiography, an automated response system or other instructional technology applications
- Development of opportunities for the continuous exchange of ideas, strategies, and methods related to teaching and learning within the Dental Branch, HSC, TMC and externally such as:
  - Journal clubs, case presentations, Greater Houston
- Discovery of distinctive solutions to educational problems faced by the Dental Branch and our community

- **The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for Scholarship in Teaching**

- The Scholarship of Teaching involves improving the quality of the teaching and learning environment for students. This form of scholarship allows other faculty to see the nature and quality of the teaching that goes on inside our classrooms, pre-clinical settings, laboratories and clinics by making it public beyond the confines of the Dental Branch setting. The Scholarship of Teaching creates unprecedented opportunities for faculty to learn from one another and

for others to participate constructively in supporting and improving teaching and learning.

- SOURCE: The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 2007.
- SOURCE: Glassick DE, Huber MT, Maeroff GI. *Scholarship Assessed: Evaluation of the Professoriate*. 1997. San Francisco: Jossey Bass, Pub.
- **The Scholarship of Teaching** may be demonstrated by the faculty nominee's ability to:
  - Devote a significant commitment of time dedicated to teaching and learning
  - Provide evidence of advanced preparation for teaching such as:
    - Participation in the Educational Scholars Fellowship Program
    - Membership in the University of Texas Academy of Teaching
    - Graduate degree related to education in the health sciences
    - Participation in national conference workshops, symposia and panels related to teaching and learning
  - Create course goals and objectives that are realistic and achievable by the students
  - Provide evidence of an understanding of existing scholarship in the field and having the necessary knowledge and skills for his or her work
  - Use methods appropriate to achieve the goals and objectives set forth and the ability to modify procedures in response to changing circumstances
  - Achieve significant results that add consequentially to the field or by faculty work that results in opening additional areas for further exploration
  - Effectively organize and present his or her work with clarity and integrity in appropriate forums for communicating the outcomes;
  - Critically evaluate his or her own efforts to improve the quality of future work
  - Investigate, disseminate and publish the evaluation and outcomes related to the Scholarship of Teaching.
    - Venues for the dissemination or publication include
      - Advances in Teaching and Learning Day
      - Journal of Dental Education
      - Journal of the American Dental Association
      - Other professional journals

- **The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for the Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration**
  - **The Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration** involves teaching, learning and scholarship which engage faculty, students and the education or civic communities in mutually beneficial and respectful collaboration. Their interactions address education or community-identified needs, deepen students' civic and academic learning, enhance community well-being and enrich the scholarship of the institution. In essence, it is a scholarly agenda that integrates the larger education or civic community issues. In this definition community is broadly defined to include audiences by disciplines external to the campus that are part of a collaborative process to contribute to the public good.
    - The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 2007
    - Clearinghouse & National Review Board for the Scholarship of Engagement, 2007
    - AAMC—Advancing Educators and Education: Defining the Components and Evidence of Educational Scholarship, 2007
  - **The Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration** can be demonstrated by evidence that the faculty member:
    - Creates work that adds consequentially to the discipline and to the field of education, and patient or civic community such as:
      - Taking a leadership role in pursuing grants related to engagement and collaboration
      - Development of expanded community outreach activities
    - States the basic purpose of his or her work and its value for academic or public good
    - Demonstrates the "academic fit" with the scholar's role, departmental and university mission
    - Defines objectives that are realistic and achievable
    - Achieves the goals and objectives established
    - Identifies intellectual and significant questions in the discipline and in the community
    - Creates opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration across the campus in work related to accreditation, faculty practice and other professional activities
    - Opens additional areas for further exploration and collaboration.
    - Achieves impact or change through his or her works
    - Evaluates his or her work and encourages others to do the same
    - Makes a contribution consistent with the purpose and target of the work over a period of time
    - Investigates and contributes to the literature the evaluation and outcomes of his or her work related to the Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration

- **The Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for *Volunteer Faculty***  
Volunteer faculty who provide excellence in education for Dental Branch students will be eligible for nomination using the same process as for the other Awards. This award will be presented to faculty who have volunteered their time each year in sustaining, developing and have made significant contributions to the teaching mission of the Dental Branch. This award will honor faculty who have contributed in a meaningful way in the categories of the Scholarship of Innovation in Teaching, Scholarship of Teaching or the Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration.

### **Award Process**

A cash award along with a certificate will be given to the awardees during the annual Graduation ceremony or during the Faculty Retreat.

A faculty member who receives an award in one of the four award areas and becomes a member of the Dean's Academy of Distinguished Educators will not be eligible for that award for the next four years. He or she will be eligible for any of the other three awards during the next award cycle.

From the remainder of the pool of nominees the Dean may select faculty to be awarded:

- **The Dean's Teaching Excellence Certificate of Merit**

## **APPENDIX 1: Criteria**

1. Teaching activities (pre-clinical, clinical, post-graduate or didactic)
2. Development of a new course or an elective (or a major revision of existing courses) drawing from the literature and "best practices" in the field
3. Development of new or innovative teaching materials drawing upon "best practices" (i.e., instructional media, e-learning, lectures, texts, course syllabi, monograph)
4. Student/post-graduate advising or mentoring
5. Sponsoring of student/post-graduate presentations such as table clinics, poster or oral presentations
6. Supervision of student/post-graduate research projects
7. Mentoring of peers
8. *Scholarly activities* (bearing a relationship to teaching) in the following categories:
  - Contributing to "best practices in the field" by giving invited professional presentations or workshops at the local, national or international levels
  - Presentation and/or leadership of continuing education courses
  - Publications related to teaching such as educational research or clinical case reports that are published in nationally recognized journals such as the Journal of Dental Education, Journal of the American Dental Association, Journal of Contemporary Practice, or any other recognized peer-reviewed journal
  - Demonstration of an educational activity developed that is publicly available to the education community in a form that others can build upon
9. Development of innovative student, post-graduate or peer review evaluation methods
10. Adequate personal preparation and ongoing self-reflection/improvement for teaching

**Appendix 2: Supporting Documentation**

1. A one-page letter of nomination
2. A one – two page letter from the nominee providing a written statement of his or her teaching accomplishments and supporting documentation to facilitate the review process
3. Peer evaluation of teaching
4. Student/post-graduate evaluation of teaching
5. Student/post-graduate achievement documented through National Board Scores, grades, WREB or other means.

Revised by Faculty Development and Evaluation Committee: September 2006 to January 10, 2008

Reviewed by Faculty Senate January 18, 2008

**The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston**  
**Nomination for**  
**The 2008 Scholarship of Innovation in Teaching Award**

Faculty Name:

Type of Degree/s:

Academic Rank:

Department Affiliation:

Criteria:

The nominee, \_\_\_\_\_ meets the Criteria set forth in Appendix I and has provided evidence and/or demonstrated the descriptors of the **Scholarship of Innovation in Teaching** in the following ways:

**The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston**  
**Nomination for**  
**The 2008 Scholarship Teaching Award**

Faculty Name:

Type of Degree/s:

Academic Rank:

Department Affiliation:

Criteria:

The nominee, \_\_\_\_\_ meets the Criteria set forth in Appendix I and has provided evidence and/or demonstrated the descriptors of the **Scholarship of Teaching** in the following ways:

**The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston**  
**Nomination for**  
**The 2008 Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration Award**

Faculty Name:

Type of Degree/s:

Academic Rank:

Department Affiliation:

Criteria:

The nominee, \_\_\_\_\_ meets the Criteria set forth in Appendix I and has provided evidence and/or demonstrated the descriptors of the **Scholarship of Engagement and Collaboration** in the following ways:

**The University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston**

**Nomination for**

**The 2008 Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for Volunteer Faculty**

Faculty Name:

Type of Degree/s:

Academic Rank:

Department Affiliation:

Criteria:

The nominee, \_\_\_\_\_ meets the Criteria set forth in Appendix I and has provided evidence and/or demonstrated the descriptors of the **Dean's Teaching Excellence Award for Volunteer Faculty** in the following ways: