



To: The University Community

From: Richard M. Englert, President 

Date: August 19, 2020

Re: Great Teacher Award

I am pleased to continue a great Temple tradition by seeking nominations for the thirty-second annual Temple University Great Teacher Awards. While both teaching and scholarship are important functions of faculty life, excellence in teaching is not always recognized and celebrated with the same attention as published research. With the Great Teacher Awards, the Temple community honors its outstanding teachers and recognizes the important connection between excellence in scholarship and teaching.

The Temple University Great Teacher Awards were established in 1988 by the Board of Trustees. In 2021, up to three faculty members will be recognized for their continuous excellence in teaching. Each award carries a monetary award of \$15,000 and a framed certificate. In addition, each recipient's name will be engraved on a wall in the Founder's Garden. The awards are presented at a special awards ceremony in the spring which will honor outstanding faculty and their contributions to Temple's tradition of teaching excellence.

The description of the Great Teacher Award, the guidelines, procedures and timelines for nomination of faculty for this award are attached. All full-time faculty are eligible to be nominated for these awards. Each department may nominate one of its members. Petitions of nomination signed by twelve students or alumni(ae) may be made directly to the Awards Committee which will advise the nominators on the preparation of the candidate's file. In every case, there should be considerable student and alumni(ae) participation in the process.

# The Temple University Great Teacher Award

## Purpose

In March 1988, the Board of Trustees established the "Temple University Great Teacher Awards." In 2020, up to three faculty members will be recognized for their continuous excellence in teaching. Each award carries a monetary award of \$15,000 and a framed certificate. In addition, each recipient's name is engraved on a wall in the Founder's Garden. The awards are presented at a special ceremony in spring which honors individual winners and their contributions to Temple's tradition of teaching excellence.

## Eligibility

The Great Teacher Award is open to all full-time University faculty who meet the criteria stated below. No faculty member may receive this award more than once.

## Criteria

Nominees for the award are expected to meet the following criteria:

- Internal and external recognition of teaching excellence and creativity primarily by students as well as by teaching colleagues in the form of an external or internal University award such as a Lindback or other School/College teaching award.
- Long term commitment to excellence and originality in teaching at Temple University, as demonstrated by:
  1. Mastery of the subject area;
  2. Development of effective and innovative methods and materials for teaching university students;
  3. Continuous efforts to evaluate and improve one's own teaching;
  4. Development of new courses; and modalities of instruction;
  5. Academic and professional achievements of students;
  6. Effective relationships with students;
  7. Prior recognition for outstanding teaching (such as a Lindback or College Teaching Award).

## Nomination Procedures

A department may present one nomination per year from among its eligible members, or an eligible faculty member may be nominated by a signed petition as described below:

- Departmental Nomination  
Each department establishes its own nominating procedures. The procedures should specify how departmental faculty identify and select nominees for the award, and how students participate in the process.
- Petition Nomination  
An individual faculty member may be nominated directly to the Awards Committee (with the candidate's permission) with a petition signed by twelve students, faculty, or alumni(ae). Multiple letters of support usually carry more weight than a single letter. Please note: A petition nomination must be accompanied by a nomination packet [described below] for consideration.
- Re-Nomination  
Candidates not selected for the award may be re-nominated in subsequent years.

### **Nomination Packets**

The following materials are required for submission:

- A letter of nomination written by a representative of the committee involved in selecting the nominee. The letter of nomination should speak to each of the criteria above;
- The nominee's curriculum vita;
- A statement of the nominee's teaching philosophy;
- A chronological list of all courses taught by the nominee since coming to Temple;
- Teaching evaluation summaries for the past three to five years;
- Written reports of peer evaluations of teaching and/or evidence of skillful direction of graduate student research; effective supervision of research students; and/or skill in leading seminars/presentations/workshops;
- Testimonials and/or letters of recommendation from past or current students, alumni, colleagues. Such letters must be solicited by an individual other than the nominee and should be sent directly to the nominee's department;
- Other documents and materials that have direct bearing on the nominee's teaching achievements.

### **Schedule**

The time schedule for submitting and reviewing nominations is set forth below:

*August 2020:* A University-wide announcement is made to solicit nominations for the award.

*October 16, 2020:* Petition nominations are due to the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs.

*October 30, 2020:* Nomination materials are due electronically (via Canvas) to the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs from school deans' offices. Early submissions are encouraged and appreciated. Faculty should note that their dean's office may set a deadline in advance of this date for nomination materials to be submitted for their consideration.

*November-December 2020:* The Great Teacher Awards Committee conducts its review and makes its recommendation to the President. The President then informs awardees, and later the public.

*March 2021:* Faculty Awards Ceremony