

President's Call for Nominations 2010

President Bruce Benson solicits nominations of University of Colorado faculty for selection of the 2010 President's Teaching Scholars. The lifetime appointment as a CU President's Teaching Scholar constitutes the University's highest recognition of excellence in and active commitment to teaching as well as active and substantial contributions to scholarly work in one's discipline or, in the case of a less senior scholar, indications of path-breaking contributions to his or her field. Chancellors, deans, departments and other faculty nominators are all encouraged to nominate candidates for this designation and commitment; self-nominations will not be accepted.

All tenured faculty members are eligible to be nominated. It is the case that this designation is not an end of career at CU award but rather membership in an active society of scholars and teachers. The Selection committee will evaluate applications based on past achievements and on furthering the goals of the President's Teaching Scholars Program. In addition, Clinical Teaching Track (CTT) faculty members who hold the rank of Associate Professor or Professor are eligible to be nominated, as are tenure-track faculty members in the School of Medicine who hold the rank of Associate Professor or Professor.

The President's Teaching Scholars are a group of faculty from all campuses chosen not only for skill in their own teaching, but also for their promise of improving education for students and enlarging educational possibilities across the University. Designees to the program become part of a participatory, service oriented and collegial community. Over time, the program has found that this group is composed of members who enjoy the opportunity and make a commitment to interact, engage and grow with colleagues whose values, generosity of spirit and concerns about education are shared. Those appointed as Teaching Scholars will receive a \$3,000 stipend for each of the first two years; a one-time teaching development fund of \$2,000; and an addition of \$2,000 to the base salary beginning the third year.

The faculty member being nominated must have been a CU faculty member for at least five consecutive years. Nominees must be teaching on their campus in the Spring 2010 semester.

The individual selected will have the following attributes:

- Enthusiasm and vitality in teaching and for learning
- Evidence of continuous growth and leadership in the field of study
- Effective ability to design and redesign courses to produce intellectual challenge
- Active and effective engagement in advising students and in guiding student learning and research projects
- Encouragement of intellectual interests in beginning students and/or of greater achievement with advanced students
- Highest level of responsiveness to, and understanding of, a diverse student body
- Willingness and ability to participate actively in the PTSP and continue working on PTS program initiatives with the Teaching Scholars

To be an outstanding teacher, the individuals should combine state-of-the-art knowledge in their field of expertise with effectiveness in developing knowledge and intellectual skills in their students. The appointment expects and presumes collegiality and active engagement with Teaching Scholar colleagues at retreats, in projects focused on teaching and learning developed both individually and collectively, and in stimulating discussion, innovation and critical reflection on teaching and student learning. If designated, a nominee commits to spending time with Teaching Scholar peers each year at two retreats: in Fall for a weekend and in Spring for a day; time for leadership in the Program, in service and committee work capacities with and for the group, including time to make a "Teaching Scholar Teaching" presentation at a retreat.

Preparing the Candidate's Dossier

The nominator should work with the nominee in requesting letters from faculty peers and students, both current and former, in support of the candidate. In case a nominee's career or teaching experiences are non-traditional, the nominator should explain in detail in the letter of nomination.

Dossiers must include, in the following order:

- A cover letter naming the faculty member as a candidate including a three-to-five page statement by the nominator describing the candidate's research in the discipline and its importance and contribution to the field.
- A current curriculum vitae
- Three current letters from faculty members here or elsewhere addressing superb teaching as described above
- Three current letters from faculty members here or elsewhere addressing active, substantial research and/or creative work in the discipline
- The official summary sheets of five years of results of CU faculty course questionnaires. (or alternative student evaluation data, if summary sheets are not available).
- Five letters from current or former students addressing the nominee's teaching and integration of research into teaching
- Evidence of having been nominated for or having received a teaching award at the University of Colorado. (Concurrent nominations are not acceptable.)
- Evidence that the nominee has assisted in the development of teaching beyond the classroom
- A three-to-five page statement by the nominee describing his or her views of the four core tasks of teaching: course planning and preparation, actual teaching, evaluating student learning and providing feedback, and keeping up with the professional field in teaching and integrating new knowledge into one's courses
- A one-page proposal from the nominee for a research project measuring classroom learning (usually in one of the candidate's courses) that will be undertaken as a Teaching Scholar (Please read description below). This project should be completed and submitted for publication within the first two years of joining the Teaching Scholars Program.

Project Guidelines

The central work of President's Teaching Scholars is to contribute to both the scholarship and the practice of teaching across fields. As a part of this work, each scholar designs and undertakes a new investigation aimed at deepening an understanding of teaching practice related to an important issue in a particular course by collecting data that measures appropriate outcomes.

The project

- Should center on finding solutions to learning barriers among one's students
- Should focus on quality of student learning resulting from teacher practice
- May demonstrate a commitment to the personal and social development of students in addition to intellectual development
- Should, if possible, link to prior areas of research and widely recognized issues
- Should eventually be submitted to an appropriate refereed journal
- Should be shared with the PTSP and other university faculty via presentations, web pages, etc. Project descriptions will be made available on the PTSP URL under Gallery of Teaching Scholars' Projects on Learning

(Adopted and adapted from The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, with permission.)

Dossiers must be no more than 80 pages in length. Please submit one dossier in bound or loose-leaf notebook format and six copies. The dossiers are not returnable. A system-wide committee composed of Teaching Scholars will select up to three new 2010 President's Teaching Scholars.

Nominations should be sent to:

Kathleen Bollard, Associate Vice President and Academic Affairs Officer, 1800 Grant Street, Suite 800, 35 UCA University of Colorado Denver, CO 80203-1185

Direct questions to Linda.Starkey@cu.edu or call 303-860-5623.

This call begins August 3, 2009 and dossiers will be accepted no later than December 4, 2009.

For more information regarding the President's Teaching Scholar's Program, please go to <http://www.colorado.edu/ptsp/>

We benefited from reviewing the distinguished teaching award guidelines and procedures used by the University of California, Berkeley, and the SUNY Office of Academic Affairs.