

Call for Nominations

2025-2026 ACADEMIC SENATE DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

Please submit all nomination letters electronically to
aneesah.kelleyhenry@ucr.edu cc: senate@ucr.edu by the deadline of

Deadline - January 12, 2026

The Committee on Distinguished Teaching is soliciting nominations for the 2026 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Competitive nominees must be members of the Academic Senate and should have a track record of sustained excellence in teaching as part of a balanced career trajectory typically spanning at least 10 years. Nominees must receive *three or more nominating letters from students and/or faculty* to be considered for this award by **January 12, 2026**. Each nominator should submit directly to the Committee on Distinguished Teaching, Academic Senate Office a complete letter which must include at least the following information:

- (1) a statement explaining the nominee's qualifications
- (2) nominator's name and address.

Upon receipt of *three* letters of nomination, the Committee on Distinguished Teaching will request all available pertinent material from heads of departments and programs to be submitted by **February 20, 2026**. If the nominators wish to suggest additional sources of supportive materials, they are encouraged to do so.

Nominees of previous years will require re-nomination to be considered by this year's committee. Previous awardees are not eligible.

For more information about the award or for a list of past recipients please visit <http://senate.ucr.edu/awards/>.

*** See attached nomination guide for assembling competitive nominations.**



Date: October 1, 2025

To: Distinguished Teaching Award Nominators

Re: A Guide for Distinguished Teaching Award Nominations

The Committee on Distinguished Teaching wishes to clarify the process by which recipients of the Distinguished Teaching award are chosen from the nominations we receive each year. It must be noted that many deserving candidates are nominated; indeed, it is rewarding to learn of the collective teaching excellence on our campus and the commitment of the faculty to our students. As such, it is exceptionally difficult to discriminate between the files of our colleagues, and many factors are taken into consideration to identify the awardees. Below are several factors considered by the Committee; note that files are not required to contain all of these items.

1. A continuous, rich history of outstanding student teaching evaluations, both numerical and narrative. Note that virtually all candidates have achieved a long-term record of excellence and rarely does this single criterion separate one candidate from another. Such a teaching record is generally earned across lower, upper division, and graduate courses, although the committee focuses on undergraduate teaching.
2. Letters from current UCR students; unsolicited letters are especially valued.
3. Letters from former students attesting to how the instructional experience with the candidate has impacted their career paths and their current success. These letters should come from students who are themselves established in their careers.
4. Letters from colleagues, both on and off-campus, can provide useful documentation from a different perspective than can be gleaned from student evaluations. Please note the committee emphasizes student letters over letters from colleagues.
5. Documentation of how the candidate has provided innovative additions to your departmental or programmatic curricula, or novel ways of cross-college partnering on our campus or across campuses to deliver interdisciplinary instruction.
6. Documentation of educational outreach activities undertaken by the candidate. These efforts could be in support of K-12 education in the community, workshops at national or international meetings, and/or instruction in professional courses.