

**Purposes and Procedures for Selection of University Distinguished Teaching Scholars**  
Faculty Council Committee on Teaching and Learning, Last Revised Fall 2013

**I. Purpose**

The purposes of the University Distinguished Teaching Scholars designation are:

- a. to confer honor upon faculty members for outstanding teaching and
- b. to symbolize the continuing commitment of Colorado State University to the pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning.

The status of the University depends upon the stature of the faculty, and the University chooses through the University Distinguished Teaching Scholar designation to recognize role models for emulation. To assure the fulfillment of the intended purposes, the University relies upon the judgments of faculty and other members of the University community in the appointment process.

University Distinguished Teaching Scholars shall have records of performance ranking them among the most outstanding teachers and educators in their disciplines, as reflected by their accomplishments as both scholar and teacher, lending talents and expertise to teaching-related projects and scholarship at Colorado State University. University Distinguished Teaching Scholars will have received national and international acclaim in recognition of outstanding achievement. Finally, they will have earned the title of University Distinguished Teaching Scholar because of their records of sustained, continuing and cumulative accomplishment in both teaching and activities relating to the scholarship of teaching. During the first three years of their appointment, University Distinguished Teaching Scholars will undertake a project of their choice that promotes excellence in teaching.

The title, "University Distinguished Teaching Scholar," is conferred for the duration of the faculty member's association with the institution. The title of University Distinguished Teaching Scholar does not refer to another academic rank analogous to Professor or Associate Professor. All persons who hold this title must have tenure. Only 12 persons may hold the title at any one time, inclusive of any Distinguished Teaching Scholars holding transitional appointments.

**II. Rights and Responsibilities**

- a. Those faculty members designated as University Distinguished Teaching Scholars:
  - May be identified by title in matters relating to the University and all academic settings;
  - Will be identified by title in University publications;
  - Will receive appropriate recognition at academic ceremonies;
  - Will receive a special medallion suitable for wearing with academic regalia;
  - Will receive a permanent base salary increment of \$7,500; and
  - Will receive an annual \$2,500 operating account (for a minimum of three years) from their home College to enable them to pursue an instructional improvement/innovation project.

**III. Selection Process**

- a. The Provost, or a designee, will issue a call for nominations annually until 12 University Distinguished Teaching Scholars have been appointed and only in the event of vacancies thereafter. The total of 12 is inclusive of University Distinguished Teaching Scholars holding transitional appointments. Nominees must be tenured and must not be in a transitional appointment at the time of their nomination or in what would be the first year of their appointment as University Distinguished Teaching Scholar.

b. Nomination materials must include the following:

1. A cover letter addressing the Nominee's qualifications, summarizing his/her accomplishments, and indicating why he/she merits the title of University Distinguished Teaching Scholar, signed by the Nominator and approved by the respective Dean.

2. Supporting evidence:

Statement of contributions to the enhancement of teaching and learning in higher education. Contributions might include, but are not limited to:

- Publications related to the study and/or enhancement of teaching and learning, such as articles, books, and papers delivered at national and international conferences
- Textbooks that make a significant impact, as judged by disciplinary peers, on teaching practices within a discipline
- Funded projects that enhance teaching and learning
- Program design and development leading to changes at or beyond the University that has implications for the design or delivery of instruction within a discipline
- Service on committees, task forces, and other groups sponsored by professional organizations where the work has a clear focus on enhancing pedagogical practices within a discipline
- Editorial work on journals, book series, Web sites, and other publications that focus on pedagogical practices within a discipline
- Significant mentoring and leadership activities that lead to improvements in pedagogical practices within a discipline
- Contributions to the development of new professional organizations and initiatives that shape pedagogical practices within a discipline

Description of previous contributions to the development of teaching and learning at Colorado State University. Contributions might include, but are not limited to:

- The design and development of courses and instructional programs
- Mentoring and training of faculty and graduate or undergraduate teaching assistants
- Presentations on teaching and learning
- Presentations of workshops on teaching and learning

The design and development of instructional resources, such as Web sites and related resources, that make a significant impact, as judged by disciplinary peers, on teaching and learning within a discipline

List and description of awards for teaching;

List of funded grants for instructional improvements and innovations;

Products involving instructional innovations and improvements (e.g., via multimedia or Web-based delivery);

Current curriculum vitae.

3. Evaluations:

Evaluations from students and faculty peers at the University, including but not limited to student course surveys and peer observations or reviews of teaching;  
Reports from external evaluators from institutions other than CSU.

4. Nominees statements:

Reflective statement from the candidate regarding teaching and learning and ideas for innovation in instruction;

Description of a three year instructional improvement/innovation project which the candidate will undertake once appointment and a statement about the project's value to the college and/or university.

- c. Evaluation and recommendations:
1. A digital copy of the nomination materials should be submitted to the Provost.
  2. The Provost will appoint a selection committee to be comprised of at least five current University Distinguished Teaching Scholars, two members of the Faculty Council Committee on Teaching and Learning, a representative of the Council of Deans, a representative of the Associated Students of Colorado State University, the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, and the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, serving as Chair.
  3. The selection committee shall determine which of the nominees meet the criteria and will make a recommendation to the Provost.
  4. The Provost shall transmit any nominations with which he/she concurs to the President.
  5. The President, in turn, shall consider the nominations and, contingent upon his/her approval, advance them to the Board of Governors for final consideration.

#### **IV. Responsibilities of the Provost**

The Provost will take appropriate steps to publicize the University Distinguished Teaching Scholar Program, assuring full awareness and understanding across the campus. Announcements and other communications will be issued at proper times. In addition, responsibility for making all arrangements for proper ceremony and recognition of title-holders will reside with the Provost