OCAD University
Teaching Excellence Awards

OCAD University’s Teaching Excellence Awards recognize outstanding faculty and teaching assistants who inspire student learning, creativity and help students to make connections between the academic, personal and professional realms.

The Price Award
The Price Award, in memory of Mamie and JH Price, is given to a tenured or tenure-track faculty member of OCAD University, and offers a $1000 prize.

The Non-Tenured Award
The Non-Tenured Award is given to CLTA, Continuing, Teaching Intensive Stream, and Sessional faculty and offers a $1000 prize.

Who can submit a nomination?
Nominations and letters of support are welcome from all members of the University community such as students, alumni, faculty members and the administration. Students can nominate faculty who are currently teaching one of their courses or faculty who have previously taught one or more of their courses and the faculty member continues to have a positive and lasting impact on their learning.

Which faculty members are eligible to receive an award?
Candidates must be currently teaching at OCAD University and no candidate is eligible to receive an award more than once. Once nominations are received they will be sorted so that they are considered for appropriate award.
  • To be considered for the Price Award, candidates must be tenured or tenure-track faculty members of OCAD University.
  • To be eligible for the Non-Tenured Award, faculty members must be a CLTA, Continuing, Sessional or Teaching Intensive Stream faculty.

How will faculty be recognized?
The final results of Teaching Excellence Awards will be announced on the OCAD University website and at the annual Faculty Appreciation Event, which is usually held at the end of April. The awards will be presented on stage at Spring Convocation, typically at the beginning of June.

How does the selection process work?
The Teaching Awards selection committee is made up of:
  • The Chancellor, OCAD University (Chair)
  • The President and Vice-Chancellor, OCAD University (Vice-Chair)
  • An Undergraduate Dean, selected on a rotating basis
• Two recently graduated (4 years) alumni as appointed by the OCAD Alumni Association
• Four current students appointed by the OCAD Student Union

Once the nomination period closes, the Teaching Awards Committee reviews all eligible nominations and creates a list of finalists. Shortlisted faculty are invited to submit a nomination package in support of their nomination. The list of finalists is announced on the OCAD U website and by email to the university community.

The community is invited to submit testimonials or other materials in support of the finalists. The Teaching Awards committee meets again to review the nomination package of the shortlisted faculty members and to determine the award winners.
Awards Criteria
The Teaching Awards committee uses the following criteria, as evidenced in the nomination packages of shortlisted faculty members, to identify the recipients of the Price and Non-Tenured Awards.

**Price Award Criteria**
The recipient of the Price Award has demonstrated leadership in advancing teaching and learning at OCAD University: in their own teaching, in their service and in their role as mentors. They use pedagogy to inform their teaching practice, curriculum and the development of new educational resources. They actively contribute to initiatives that involve teaching and learning, including research on teaching, in order to discuss, present and publish their work. Nominees who have been previously been awarded internal or external teaching awards may be granted additional consideration.

Examples of demonstrated behaviour may include:
- Employs innovative student-centered teaching methods and assignments
- Connects students with the world outside of the classroom and/or studio
- Uses pedagogy and institutional data to inform curriculum development
- Develops new educational resources
- Engages in continuous improvement and professional development of their teaching
- Guides and mentors colleagues in their professional teaching development
- Adopts a leadership role in program, Faculty and institutional initiatives with an emphasis on teaching and learning
- Engages in and disseminates scholarship of teaching and learning research

**Non-Tenured Criteria**
The recipient of the Non-Tenured Award has demonstrated a history of teaching with a focus on improved student learning. They use pedagogy to inform their teaching practice, curriculum and the development of new educational resources. They actively contribute to initiatives that involve teaching and learning, including research on teaching (where appropriate). Nominees who have been previously been awarded internal or external teaching awards may be granted additional consideration.

Examples of demonstrated behaviour may include:
- Employs innovative student-centered teaching methods and assignments
- Uses pedagogy and institutional data to inform curriculum development
- Develops new educational resources
- Engages in continuous improvement and professional development of their teaching

Supplemental criteria:
- Guides and mentors colleagues in their professional teaching development
- Participates in program, Faculty and institutional initiatives with an emphasis on teaching and learning (where possible)
Nomination Packages

New for 2017-2018, shortlisted nominees for the Price and Non-Tenured awards are welcome to submit expanded nomination packages, including a 2-3 page teaching philosophy statement and up to 15 pages of supplemental materials:

- 1 Peer/collague reference letter
- 1 Former student reference letter
- Feedback from classroom observations
- Student Feedback on Courses scores
- Rubrics or marking schemes
- Assignment guides
- Samples of student work (with permission)
- Sample course outline(s)
- Former teaching award nominations or wins
- Record of teaching-related training and professional development
- Examples of scholarship of teaching and learning research, presentations and publications