Purpose and Criteria

The College of Basic and Applied Sciences Teaching Excellence Award is designed to celebrate and honor consistent excellence in teaching. The Award shall be made in the spring semester of each academic year. The ideal candidate for the CBAS Teaching Excellence Award shall be:

1. A faculty member including department chairs and full-time temporary faculty recognized by both colleagues and students as a teacher of the highest caliber who is dedicated to the learning enterprise by challenging students to fulfill their potential as learners and demonstrating teaching excellence across all courses offered.

2. A teacher who is involved in creative teaching and learning activities outside the boundaries of traditional course work (e.g., research on teaching; presentations to other educators; partnerships with other academic institutions; study abroad; service learning; integrative learning activities).

Each of the above criteria must be met in order to receive the Teaching Excellence Award. Each recipient will be honored with a plaque and a monetary award. No award will be made if, in the opinion of the Selection Committee and/or the Dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, there is no nominee who adequately meets these criteria.

Eligibility

1. To be eligible for the Teaching Excellence Award, one must be a full-time faculty member in the CBAS who has completed at least three consecutive academic years of employment in the College if they have not previously received the Teaching Excellence Award at either the College or University level within the last 5 years.

2. Members of the Award Selection Committee are not eligible to be nominated for the Award.

(Continued)
Nomination Process

Only electronic submissions in pdf format will be accepted. This packet of information should be submitted to cbasawards@mtsu.edu from the nominator’s email address no later than April 2nd. Please include the name of the award in the subject line of your email to simplify the process for committee members reviewing the nominations. The submission packet should include the following:

1. A letter of nomination detailing the reasons for the nomination. Please specifically address points 1 and 2 of the above “purpose and criteria” section.

2. The nominee’s curriculum vitae with relevant activities highlighted for work done at MTSU for at least the last three years. Please include a one paragraph description of your teaching philosophy.

Finalists must submit course evaluations from the previous two semesters and a separate classroom peer evaluation from the nominator or another tenured faculty member within their department. These evaluations will be considered for selection of the final award recommendation to the Dean.

Finalists must also provide a short (10 minute) presentation summarizing their teaching philosophy. Presentation requirements will be provided to finalists in a separate document.

Selection Process

The College of Basic and Applied Sciences Awards Committee will evaluate nominations and make a recommendation to the Dean of the College. Final selection will be made by the Dean, who will inform the recipient(s) of their award.