Call for Nominations for

THE ALLIANT ENERGY UNDERKOFLER EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

The UW System Office of Academic Programs and Educational Innovation (APEI) requests nominations for the 2016 Alliant Energy Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards. For 2016, three awards of $2,500 each will be made to the selected nominees from UW System institutions within the service area of the company. The awards are intended to recognize teaching of outstanding quality that leads to substantial intellectual growth in students.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible individuals must be current members of the teaching faculty or instructional academic staff at one of the UW System institutions within the service area of Alliant Energy. These institutions are UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and the UW College campuses at Baraboo, Fond du Lac, Richland Center, Rock County, and Sheboygan. The campuses at Madison and Platteville and the five Colleges as a group must each select one faculty or instructional academic staff member for the award.

INSTITUTIONAL NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Selection procedures will be determined by each eligible institution, and only those selections submitted by the eligible institutions will be considered. Therefore, individuals must consult with and work through their Provost’s office in making their applications. We urge institutions to ensure that the procedure is as thorough, careful, and fair as possible and that it allows for participation by all major constituencies of the university community.

CRITERIA

The institution should value evidence that the candidate:

1. Displays an uncommon commitment to teaching (e.g., works to maintain a strong and current knowledge of the field; seeks out and develops innovative approaches to teaching, including effective uses of technology to enhance teaching; shares insights on teaching through presentations and publications; serves as a mentor or special advisor to students; sponsors student-initiated projects).

2. Employs especially effective teaching strategies (e.g., communicates high expectations; establishes good intellectual rapport with students; engages students in and out of the classroom in an active examination of the topic; conveys excitement about the material; fosters conceptual and critical thinking; models and encourages an integrated view of knowledge; respects and responds to the diversity among students).

3. Has enabled particularly notable achievements by former students.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

1. A 1- or 2-page reflective statement by the nominee on his or her teaching and learning philosophy, strategies, objectives, and on how these have evolved over time.

2. A condensed curriculum vitae of the nominee.

3. One or two letters of support from current or past students. At least one letter should be from a student with recent or current contact with the nominee.

4. One or two letters of support from colleagues qualified to comment on the candidate’s teaching. One should be from the department chair.

DEADLINE

The names of selected nominees and supporting materials are due by May 1st, 2016, and should be e-mailed to the Office of Academic Programs and Educational Innovation at afgp@uwsa.edu.

Questions about the awards program should be addressed to Sal Carranza at scarranza@uwsa.edu or afgp@uwsa.edu.