

# 2023-2024 UW-MADISON ACADEMIC STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARDS NOMINATION GUIDELINES

## **DEADLINE: Monday, January 29, 2024**

The Professional Development and Recognition Committee (PDRC) of the Academic Staff Assembly invites the nomination of eligible academic staff for the 2023-2024 UW-Madison Academic Staff Excellence Awards.

These guidelines pertain only to the following UW-Madison Academic Staff Excellence Awards:

- The Chancellor's Hilldale Award for Excellence in Teaching
- The WISCIENCE Lillian Tong Teaching Award
- The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research (Two Awards: Independent Investigator; Critical Research Support)
- The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research (Two Awards: Independent Investigator; Critical Research Support)
- The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Service to the University
- The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Leadership (Two Awards: Individual Level; School, College, or Larger University Level)
- Robert and Carroll Heideman Award for Excellence in Public Service and Outreach
- Martha Casey Award for Dedication to Excellence
- Ann Wallace Career Achievement Award

Guidelines for Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards may be found at <https://acstaff.wisc.edu/grants-awards/uw-system-awards/>.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR AWARDS**

Nominees must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Employed 50% time or greater during the academic year in which they are nominated.
- Have at least five years of service (as defined in [ASPP 1.03](#), Years of Academic Staff Service) as an academic staff member, limited appointee with an academic staff backup appointment, limited appointee with no backup appointment, or a limited appointee with a university staff backup appointment.

## **THE AWARDS**

Ten prestigious awards in eight categories recognizing excellence by UW-Madison academic staff will be presented this year:

### **The Chancellor's Hilldale Award for Excellence in Teaching (one award)**

The primary mission of UW-Madison, and one of its greatest strengths, is the instruction that it provides to students. Academic staff teach classes and support the instruction received by thousands of students each semester.

*Those nominated for this award shall provide and support instruction.*

### **The WISCIENCE Lillian Tong Teaching Award (1 award)**

This award celebrates UW–Madison science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical (STEMM) faculty and academic staff educators. Candidates should engage in using research-based pedagogies and collect classroom data to guide continuous improvement of their teaching practice and their courses. In addition, they should regularly engage in teaching-related professional development. This award aims to celebrate and inspire STEMM classroom teachers to continue innovating and developing creative ways to support STEMM student learning.

Dr. Lillian Tong inspired many STEMM faculty and academic staff members to become the best educators they could be through her professional development programs at UW-Madison and beyond. Dr. Tong was a part of the original staff at the Center for Biology Education in 1988/89 and retired from the Center after it became the Wisconsin Institute for Science Education and Community Engagement (WISCIENCE).

**Academic staff members will be eligible for this in even-numbered fiscal years, and faculty members will be eligible in odd-numbered fiscal years.**

Additional eligibility requirements for the WISCIENCE Lillian Tong Teaching Award can be found here: <https://acstaff.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1463/2023/11/WISCIENCE-Lillian-Tong-Award-Additional-Eligibility-Requirements.pdf>

*Those nominated for this award shall be instructors of record that engage in research-informed teaching practices to improve student learning. Strong nominations will include evidence of increasing student inclusion and belonging, and broadening access for learners.*

### **The Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Research (two awards)**

UW-Madison is one of the nation's largest public research universities. Academic staff serving as principal investigators or as project research personnel perform critical research functions and make possible the advancement of knowledge and the service to humankind that results. Candidates will be considered in different arenas as follows:

1. Individuals functioning as an independent investigator (one award)
2. Individuals providing critical research support (one award)

*Those nominated for these awards shall conduct or support the university's research mission.*

### **The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Service to the University (one award)**

Many academic staff consistently go beyond the responsibilities of their positions and demonstrate outstanding sustained service and dedication to the university as well as to their individual units. It is this type of dedication that has made UW-Madison a world-class public research university.

*Those nominated for this award shall have demonstrated outstanding, long-term personal commitment to the greater university community.*

### **The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Leadership (two awards)**

Academic staff from many arenas of responsibility make it possible for the university to serve the more than 50,000 people who work and study on the UW-Madison campus. Academic staff may manage facilities, direct business services, or ensure the smooth functioning of classrooms, laboratories, libraries, and student service offices. The leadership awards will recognize nominees from different arenas of responsibility as follows:

1. Academic staff who demonstrate leadership at the college, school, or the larger university community level (one award).
2. Academic staff who demonstrate leadership within an individual unit (one award).

*Those nominated for these awards shall have demonstrated exceptional organizational leadership.*

### **The Robert and Carroll Heideman Award for Excellence in Public Service and Outreach (one award)**

Academic staff play a key role in the state, national, and international public service mission of the university. Following the "Wisconsin Idea," the UW-Madison enhances the economic vitality of the state, and the cultural and social life of residents by sharing knowledge, talents, and skills. Other academic staff provide direct services to students or to the many people who use university facilities each year.

*Those nominated for this award shall be involved in on- or off-campus outreach that reflects the public service mission of the university.*

### **Martha Casey Award for Dedication to Excellence (one award)**

The efforts and knowledge of a dedicated staff member at the university can make the difference between something functioning smoothly and efficiently and it working poorly or not at all. This award recognizes staff who perform their assigned jobs outstandingly and thereby make things work. They are typically not managers who supervise others; rather they are on the front lines of day-to-day work and lead from within the organization. Their dedication to the university and its mission are obvious. The term "unsung hero" is often applied to them.

Nominees' specific contributions may range from overseeing a key process in an administrative office, to analyzing data so that it is meaningful to decision makers, to providing the "institutional memory" for an office. Their expertise comes from day-to-day attention to detail, and they take pride in using their in-depth knowledge to find constructive solutions to problems. This dedication may not receive wide recognition outside their own offices because their work is relatively specific to one area. However, people who do work with them or need to use their expertise quickly realize how essential they are and seek them out often. In addition, the impact of their work extends beyond their unit and clearly contributes to the fulfillment of the university's mission.

Additional description for the Martha Casey Award can be found here: <https://acstaff.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1463/2021/11/Examples-of-the-type-of-person-deserving-of-the-Martha-Casey-Award.pdf>

*Those nominated for this award demonstrate consistent dedication to outstanding day-to-day job performance. Their work directly or indirectly affects the larger university's mission and operation, and this impact should also be considered.*

### **The Ann Wallace Career Achievement Award (one award)**

This award recognizes a retiring academic staff member who has provided leadership on behalf of academic staff across the campus and in addition has had a distinguished career. The individual need not have been actively involved in formal governance activities, but might have made other contributions that helped academic staff beyond the employing unit. In addition, nominees must have had a laudable career and must have demonstrated leadership and adherence to the highest level of professional standards in carrying out the duties of their positions.

Nominations must demonstrate (1) excellence in activities that help academic staff across the campus, such as service on governance committees or other leadership on issues of concern to academic staff and (2) excellence as an employee, such as service that is in all ways outstanding and is a model for faculty and staff on how to serve the institution. Nominees must have adhered to the highest level of professional standards.

*Those nominated for this award shall be academic staff who have retired in the previous calendar year or are retiring in the academic year in which the award is given and who have been UW-Madison academic staff for at least 15 years.*

### **GENERAL AWARD CRITERIA**

Individuals may be nominated for **only one** of the UW-Madison Academic Staff Excellence Awards. The following criteria, in addition to the specific criteria listed with each award, will be considered in the review of nominations:

- **Outstanding Achievement and Performance:** consistently and substantially exceeds the expectations of the position; has made important and significant contributions to the departmental unit; has furthered the mission of the university; has become a distinguished member of their profession campus-wide, system wide, nationally, or internationally.
- **Personal Interaction:** consistently and substantially demonstrates ability and willingness to work positively and effectively with others; demonstrates ability and willingness to manage changes in work priorities, procedures, and organization.
- **Initiative and Creativity:** consistently and substantially demonstrates an innovative approach to the job, thereby improving productivity and the quality of the work assigned; demonstrates efforts to expand work responsibilities.

### **NOMINATION MATERIALS**

The nomination materials shall contain supporting documents in the following order (please note a cover page is no longer necessary):

1. **Letter of nomination.** Any staff member, faculty member, student, or member of the community may initiate the letter. **To give the candidate the most favorable consideration, the letter of nomination should: a) describe how the nominee demonstrates excellence in the specific award category, and b) address the general award criteria.**
2. **Supporting letters.** These letters of support (no more than four) shall come from people such as other staff members, faculty members, students, and members of the community and shall address the candidate's qualifications for the specific award, not simply excellence of performance. Letters demonstrating a broad spectrum of support are often most effective.

3. ***A résumé or curriculum vita*** of applicable professional experiences and accomplishments.
4. ***Additional supporting material*** (*not additional letters of support*), provided at the discretion of the nominator.
5. **For teaching awards**, a succinct ***summary of teaching or course evaluations*** (rather than a collection of actual evaluations) must be included.
6. **For the WISCIENCE Lillian Tong Teaching Award**, a ***1-2 page personal reflection*** from the nominee must be included.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

Nomination materials for all awards are reviewed by a committee including previous Academic Staff Excellence Award winners and members of the Academic Staff Professional Development and Recognition Committee (PDRC). All nomination materials are confidential. No submitted materials will be returned unless requested by the nominator at the time of submission.

The UW-Madison Academic Staff Excellence Awards are presented at a ceremony in the spring.

## **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS**

A complete set of nomination materials should be submitted electronically in PDF format by **Monday, January 29, 2024**. The submission URL is <https://apps.ohr.wisc.edu/staffdev/>.

***The selection committee is on a very tight schedule, so the January 29 deadline will be strictly enforced.***