



## 2024 Alliant Energy James R. Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards Guidelines

**DEADLINE: 11:59 pm, April 15, 2024**

### **PURPOSE**

The Alliant Energy James R. Underkofler Excellence Teaching Awards were created to recognize outstanding undergraduate faculty or instructional academic staff in the Alliant Energy service area.

### **AWARDS**

The Alliant Energy Foundation, Inc. and Universities of Wisconsin will bestow four awards in the amount of \$5,000 each to outstanding undergraduate teachers currently teaching at one of the Universities of Wisconsin institutions within the Alliant Energy service area. These are UW-Madison; UW-Platteville (main campus); and UW-Platteville Baraboo Sauk County.

### **AWARDS CEREMONY**

It is anticipated that the recipients will be recognized at a special ceremony at the Pyle Center on the UW-Madison campus on October 24, 2024 from 2:00 – 4:30pm. Representatives of Alliant Energy may participate in the ceremony. At the award ceremony, an official *Alliant Energy James R. Underkofler Excellence in Teaching* award will be presented. The recipients may invite guests to join them at the ceremony.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for this award the nominee should:

- Display 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; and sponsors student-initiated projects).
- Employ 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; and respects and responds to the diversity among students).
- Have enabled particularly notable achievements by former students.

## **REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS**

1. Reflective statement by the nominee on their teaching and learning philosophy, strategies, objectives, and on how these have evolved over time (2-page limit).
2. A condensed curriculum vitae of the nominee (3-page limit).
3. One or two letters of support from current or past students (2-page limit each). 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 (2-page limit each). One letter should be from the department chair.
5. Evidence of the success of the candidate's teaching (no more than 3 pages), which may include a summary of student evaluations for each course taught over the past two years, a list of awards for teaching, invitations to speak at teaching improvement meetings, and other relevant material.

Please note, nomination materials are subject to release under Wisconsin Open Records laws and should be written with the possibility of those materials being made publicly available.

## **NOMINATION PROCEDURES**

Nominations must be submitted via the online application at:

<https://apps.ohr.wisc.edu/staffdev/>.

Nominations must be submitted in the online application system by 11:59 pm on Monday, April 15, 2024.

Questions about the awards program should be directed to Lesley Fisher at

[pdrc@soas.wisc.edu](mailto:pdrc@soas.wisc.edu).