

THE MOUNT SAINT VINCENT ALUMNAE AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE 2012

The Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Award for Teaching Excellence is funded and administered by the Mount Saint Vincent Alumnae Association.

The award recipient will be presented with a certificate at Spring Convocation. The Alumnae Association will make a \$500 donation in the recipient's name to a scholarship for Mount students.

ELIGIBILITY:

Full-time, part-time and recently appointed faculty members, who are currently teaching, are eligible for this award (except those professors currently on sabbatical). To avoid possible conflict of interest, no member of the selection committee is eligible to nominate or be nominated. Once an individual has received the Alumnae Award for Teaching Excellence, s/he is not eligible to be nominated again for 5 years.

CRITERIA:

A Curriculum Vitae is not required. The focus, instead, is the philosophy and practice of teaching. This includes, but is not limited, to:

1. Demonstrated intellectual vigour and communication skills in the interpretation and presentation of subject matter.
2. Setting high standards and successfully motivating students to maintain this standard.
3. Employing methods of evaluation of student performance, which stress an understanding of the subject, rather than just an ability to memorize.
4. Demonstrating empathy and sensitivity to the needs of students, both academically and as individuals.
5. Accessibility to students outside of class hours.
6. Encouraging student participation in the teaching-learning process.
7. A clear indication that the nominee has a favourable and lasting effect on students.
8. A reputation for superior teaching, and that this quality is recognized by students and colleagues alike.

Please turn over...

NOMINATIONS:

Students, faculty, staff and alumnae are eligible to nominate individuals for this honour. Students signing nomination forms must have taken a course from the faculty member being nominated. Nominations must be signed by at least five (5) people.

Completed nomination forms, along with supporting letter should be returned to the President's Office, Evaristus 205 by Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

If fewer than three nominations are deemed eligible for the Alumnae Award for Teaching Excellence, the Selection Committee reserves the right to suspend the award for the academic year.

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

The Selection Committee is comprised of equal representation from students, faculty and alumnae and the committee is chaired by a member of the alumnae community. The team will provide an efficient and effective means of conducting classroom observations and interviews. Normally, a minimum of one classroom observation will be conducted for each nominee. The four most important sources of information to be used in the award selection process are:

1. Classroom observation by the committee.
2. Evaluation form filled out by students.
3. Informal interview with the "short list" of nominees by the selection committee.
4. Philosophy of teaching statement - 500 words or fewer - would include an anecdote from teaching experience. Teaching aids may be included.