


VCU Memo

V i r g i n i a C o m m o n w e a l t h U n i v e r s i t y

To: All School of Medicine Faculty, Residents, Medical and Graduate Students, Postdoctoral Fellows
From: Jerome F. Strauss, III, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, School of Medicine and Executive VP for Medical Affairs, VCU Health System 
Date: May 2, 2008
Subject: **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2008 School of Medicine Teaching Excellence Awards**

I am pleased to announce the School of Medicine's (SOM) 10th Annual Faculty Excellence Awards Program, to be held Wednesday, September 24, 2008, 12 – 1:30 p.m., Medical Sciences Building Auditorium. This annual faculty awards program is an opportunity for us to recognize and applaud the dedication, hard work, and excellence of the SOM teaching faculty. **I look forward to receiving your nominations and encourage everyone to honor your exceptional teaching faculty by nominating them for the following teaching awards:**

- The Faculty Teaching Excellence Award (the School's highest recognition for teaching)
- The Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
- The Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award
- The Distinguished Mentor Award

Deadline for Nomination Form & all documentation: Monday, July 7

Eligibility

Faculty, administrators, residents, students, postdocs, or a candidate may nominate any SOM faculty member teaching in undergraduate medicine, graduate education, graduate medical education, continuing education, or other schools/programs. Previous nominees' packages may be updated and resubmitted.

What to include in the Nomination Package

1. The Nomination Form (on back)
2. An up-to-date curriculum vitae of nominee.
3. No more than twelve (12) recommendation letters of support (addressed to Carol Hampton) stating why you think your nominee should be chosen for the award, as well as other strengths of the nominee.
4. Additional documentation may also be submitted such as student evaluations, educational activities, examples, innovations, outcomes (please be judicious, succinct, and creative).

****NOMINATORS: PLEASE CHOOSE WISELY YOUR SUBMISSIONS****

Where to Send Nomination Package

Carol Hampton, Associate Dean for Faculty and Instructional Development, P.O. Box 980565, Sanger 1-017.

Sample nomination packages of previous years' winners can be viewed in the Office of Faculty Affairs, Sanger 1-017. The Nomination Form is also located at <http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/teaching.html>. A detailed description of the teaching awards and criteria and teaching competencies are on the SOM website at <http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/awards/annualteachingawards.html>.

For questions, contact Carol Hampton, carol.hampton@vcu.edu, 828-6594, or Debbie Stewart, dstewart@vcu.edu, 828-6591. We appreciate your participation each year as we continue to honor our exemplary teachers with these annual awards.

Enclosures

Over for "Nomination Form"

2008 SOM Teaching Excellence Awards

Nomination Form

Please check one

Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
(the School's highest recognition for teaching)
Recognizes extraordinary accomplishment in all aspects of education.

Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award
Recognizes an individual faculty member, a group, or an academic unit for significant educational innovation or educational research.

Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
Recognizes superior teaching in clinical medicine taught in the last two years of medical school and residency training, and encourages excellence in an increasingly complicated and challenging educational environment.

Distinguished Mentor Award
Recognizes significant contributions to the career development of others, (e.g., mentorship to fellow faculty members, junior faculty, residents, fellows, graduate students, post-docs or other mentoring relationships).

Deadline for Nomination Form & all documentation: Monday, July 7

Please complete this Nomination Form and return it with the following documentation:

- ◆ An up-to-date curriculum vitae.
- ◆ No more than twelve (12) recommendation letters of support stating why you think your nominee should be selected for the award as well as other strengths of the nominee.
- ◆ Additional documentation may also be submitted such as student evaluations, educational activities, examples, innovations, outcomes (please be judicious, succinct, and creative).

NOMINATORS: PLEASE CHOOSE WISELY YOUR SUBMISSIONS.

Please use a separate form for each nomination.

SOM Faculty Nominee:

Degree:

Academic/Professional Title:

Department:

Phone:

Box #:

E-Mail:

Fax:

Nominator:

Box #:

E-Mail:

Fax:

Send Nomination Packages to:

Carol Hampton, Associate Dean for Faculty & Instructional Development
Office of Faculty Affairs
P.O. Box 980565

**Recipients will be honored at the Faculty Excellence Awards Program on Wednesday, September 24, 12 noon
Medical Sciences Building Auditorium
A LUNCHEON RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW**

DESCRIPTION OF TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

- **The Faculty Teaching Excellence Award**

The **Faculty Teaching Excellence Award** recognizes extraordinary accomplishment in all aspects of education. This award is the School of Medicine's highest recognition for teaching.

The School of Medicine gives the Faculty Excellence Award annually to a faculty member who is an outstanding teacher and has a compelling record of contributions to education.

As a teacher, the individual successfully stimulates student intellectual achievement through superior communication skills and interpersonal rapport. The recipient of the award enthusiastically relates information in all instructional situations, displaying outstanding scholarship, and cogent organization. The exemplary educator respects students, knows many by name and history, promotes their critical thinking, and inspires students of all abilities to extraordinary accomplishment. He/she is a role model for the highest standards of professionalism.

As an educator, the individual is widely recognized for educational leadership and academic inquiry. The faculty member supports the educational excellence of colleagues, and embodies a spirit of instructional innovation.

A cash award of \$1,000 will be given to the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award recipient and \$3,000 for the recipient's scholarly and educational development. The award can be used for education, scholarship, faculty development, or other activities of choice (managed through recipient's department). The individual's name will be placed on a plaque in the lobby of Sanger Hall. Award recipients may receive the same award after three years and upon demonstration of additional achievement. A photo of the recipient will also be placed in Sanger Hall.

Three awards identify faculty contributions in specific areas of education. The awards are:

- **The Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching**

The School of Medicine presents the **Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching** in recognition of superior teaching and professionalism in clinical medicine taught in the last two years of medical school and residency training. The award is named in honor of two outstanding physician educators: W. Robert Irby, M.D., and G. Watson James, III, M.D., both Professors of Internal Medicine. Whitby, Inc., a pharmaceutical marketing and research company, formerly a subsidiary of Ethyl Corporation, Richmond, VA, established the award in 1992. The award recognizes and encourages excellence in an increasingly complicated and challenging educational environment.

The award is funded by a gift to the MCV Foundation. A cash award from the endowment fund will be given to the recipient.

- **The Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award**

The School of Medicine confers the **Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award** annually to an individual faculty member, a group, a program, or an academic unit for significant educational innovation or educational research.

Innovation includes the development of educational materials, the institution of new courses or clinics, instructional methods, teaching techniques or evaluation methods, contributions to curriculum renewal or

research in medical education. Examples of creative educational initiatives are curriculum or course development, computer based instructional programs, informatics applications, community service projects (local, state, national, international), community preceptor activities, measuring and reporting educational outcomes, and collaborative learning programs within electronic classrooms or new course syllabi. Outstanding innovation enhances student academic attainment and may be nationally recognized.

Educational research includes scholarly investigation and publication of educational methods, processes, attitudes, and outcomes which contribute to the enhancement of the teaching mission.

The faculty nominee must exhibit high standards of professionalism.

A cash award of \$500 will be given to an individual recipient with an additional \$1,000 given for the recipient's scholarly and educational development. The award can be used for education, scholarship, faculty development, or other activities of choice (managed through recipient's department). Award recipients may receive the same award after three years and upon demonstration of additional achievement.

- **The Distinguished Mentor Award**

The School of Medicine bestows the **Distinguished Mentor Award** annually to a faculty member for significant contributions to the career development of others. Examples include mentorship to fellow faculty members, junior faculty, residents, fellows, medical students, graduate students, post-docs or other mentoring relationships. Diverse colleagues attribute much of their professional achievements to the guidance, sponsorship, and teaching of the influential mentor. The faculty nominee must exhibit high standards of professionalism.

A cash award of \$500 will be given to an individual recipient with an additional \$1,000 given for the recipient's scholarly and educational development. The award can be used for education, scholarship, faculty development, or other activities of choice (managed through recipient's department). Award recipients may receive the same award after three years and upon demonstration of additional achievement.

Selection Committee:

The Dean appoints the Teaching Excellence Awards Committee. The committee consists of two faculty members representing the basic sciences, two faculty members representing the clinical sciences, one graduate student, two M-IV representatives, one resident, a representative of the Office of Faculty Affairs, and the previous three recipient(s) of the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award.

Refer to <http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/awards/annualteachingawards.html> for a detailed description of the full Teaching Awards Program.