

# Teaching Awards Policy

## Section 1 - Purpose and Context

- (1) Western Sydney University recognises staff achievements in teaching by offering teaching awards.
- (2) The awards support the strategic goals of the University and act as a channel for monitoring and celebrating individual, group and team achievements.
- (3) This policy provides the underlying principles and categories of the awards.
- (4) The policy applies to currently-employed permanent and fixed-term full, part-time and casual academic and professional staff.
- (5) The University expects successful candidates will apply for the Australian Government's Office for Learning and Teaching Awards within two years of receiving an award.

## Section 2 - Definitions

- (6) Nil.

## Section 3 - Policy Statement

- (7) The teaching awards acknowledge staff whose outstanding dedication, creativity and excellence in performance and service have had, or are having, a significant impact on the University's progress towards achieving its mission.
- (8) The awards, which are issued by the Vice-Chancellor and President or nominee:
  - a. recognise and reward excellence;
  - b. instil notions of best-practice and excellence in all aspects of work at the University;
  - c. boost morale and productivity of staff;
  - d. identify and support nominees for other award schemes;
  - e. foster ongoing professional development;
  - f. encourage loyalty and commitment to the University; and
  - g. provide a platform to showcase staff achievements.
- (9) The categories of awards are:
  - a. Western Sydney University Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning, which is designed to both acknowledge staff who have made a significant contribution to student learning in a specific area of responsibility and encourage staff to develop their career;
  - b. Western Sydney University Teaching Excellence Award, which supports the work done by academic staff in providing outstanding learning experiences for students;
  - c. The Vice-Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award, which is the premier University teaching award.

(10) The awards are available to:

- a. teams who demonstrate the capacity to collaborate effectively towards shared goals and who achieve excellence in outcomes in the nominated area of activity related to student learning;
- b. individuals who demonstrate the capacity to work innovatively and in an exemplary manner and who achieve excellence in the nominated area of activity related to student learning; and
- c. teams or individuals who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to service related to student learning both within and beyond the institution.

## **Section 4 - Procedures**

(11) Refer to the [Teaching Awards Procedures](#).

## **Section 5 - Guidelines**

(12) Nil.

## Status and Details

<b>Status</b>	Current
<b>Effective Date</b>	9th February 2016
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