

Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars

Provost Colburn has announced the formation of a new program, the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars, created specifically to recognize faculty who have excelled as teaching scholars throughout their careers. Patterned after successful programs at Texas, Virginia, and Southern California, the program serves to recognize those who provide the very best educational experiences for our graduate and undergraduate students.

While Department, College and University Teaching awards acknowledge past accomplishments on an annual basis, the recipients of this honor are awarded lifetime Academy membership.

To initiate the program, a faculty committee appointed by this office and the Chair of the Faculty Senate will review and select five inaugural members. In each subsequent year, the Scholars themselves will form the selection committee and oversee the selection of five new members for a total active membership of 15.

Once selected, Academy members will serve for three years on the Advisory Board of the University Center for Excellence in Teaching (UCET). During the member's three-year term on the UCET Board, the Distinguished Teaching Scholar will assist UCET in developing educational programs and workshops for faculty and graduate students. An honorarium of \$5,000 per year (total of \$15,000) will be awarded to each Scholar while serving as an Advisory Board member. These funds can be used as an unrestricted overhead account.

When members cycle off the Advisory Board, they will retain the title of Distinguished Teaching Scholar and continue to be part of the Academy. Academy members will be called on periodically to advise the Provost, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, and Director of UCET on academic initiatives.

A plaque with the names of the Scholars will be displayed outside of the Provost's Office as well as UCET's.

Nominations for deserving faculty members of the Academy is strongly encouraged. Candidates may also self-nominate. The nomination form can be found at www.aa.ufl.edu/academy.htm. Please note the deadline for submitting a packet is November 19th. A packet should include:

- A two-page, double-spaced description of how you integrate your research into your classroom teaching and steps you have taken to enhance your instructional activities;
- An updated curriculum vitae that particularly highlights your teaching and research accomplishments and recognitions;
- A letter of support from your chair;
- Copies of your student evaluations for the past five years;
- And copies of your course syllabi for the past five years.

This program will serve to highlight and strengthen the quality of undergraduate and graduate education at the University of Florida. Please send the packet to UCET (109 Rolfs Hall) and address any questions to Dr. David Bloomquist, UCET Director, 846-1574, davidb@ucet.ufl.edu.