Date: January 9, 2015

To: CNS Faculty and Presidents of Undergraduate and Graduate Student Organizations

From: Simon Tavener, Associate Dean for Academics

Subject: COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES TEACHING & MENTORING AWARDS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The College of Natural Sciences is soliciting nominations for its 2015 faculty, postdoc and graduate student teaching and mentoring awards. The purpose of these awards is to offer public recognition to superior teachers and mentors in our college and to focus attention on our commitment to excellence in education.

The award categories recognize various types of contributions our faculty, postdocs and graduate students make to the teaching mission of the College and University. This year, the Awards Committee expects to make six awards, one in each of the following categories:

• Faculty Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching
• Faculty Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring
• Early Career (pre-tenure) Faculty Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching or Mentoring
• Faculty Excellence in Graduate Education and Mentoring
• Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching
• Postdoc/ Graduate Student Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring

Departments, individual faculty, or established student organizations may submit nominations. All eight departments are encouraged to submit as many nominations in each award category as they deem appropriate. The College Awards Committee will review nominations and make recommendations to the Dean who will make the final selections.

Recipients of the awards will be announced by late March, 2015 and will be recognized at a College Awards Ceremony in April.

All nominations are due at 5:00pm Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Nominations must be filed electronically at http://cns.natsci.colostate.edu/faculty/awards/
FACULTY TEACHING & MENTORING AWARDS

Nominations due 5:00pm Wednesday, February 25, 2015
All nominations must be filed electronically at http://cns.natsci.colostate.edu/faculty/awards/

Eligibility To be eligible for these awards, a faculty member must:
• Hold a regular or special faculty appointment in the College of Natural Sciences.
• Have completed at least 3 full years at CSU as of January 1, 2015.
• Not have received the award within the preceding five years.

Award Categories
• Excellence in undergraduate teaching
• Excellence in undergraduate research mentoring
• Excellence in graduate education and mentoring
• Early career (pre-tenure) excellence in undergraduate teaching or mentoring

Award Criteria
1. Activity Consistent and substantial record of involvement in activities relevant to the award category.
2. Impact Influence on students (in the academic or professional activities of graduate or undergraduate students), including those not directly mentored or supervised (for example, contributions to graduate advisory committees, curriculum development, improved teaching methods, department or university undergraduate research programs, etc.).
3. Quality Evidence of the high quality of teaching and/or mentoring. For example, teaching evaluations, publications/presentations with students, etc.

Nomination Packet for Faculty Awards
The nomination packet should include the following components:

1. Cover sheet with the nominee's name, department, and award category.
2. Two-page curriculum vitae highlighting information relevant for the award.
3. List of all courses taught at CSU over the past three years.
4. A letter of nomination (not to exceed three pages) describing the nominee’s qualifications for the award and addressing the award criteria of activity, impact, and quality.
5. One seconding letter (not to exceed two pages). The seconding letter may be from either a faculty member or student, but should include student input in some manner. Also, if the letter of nomination comes from a student organization, the seconding letter must be from a faculty member.
6. Teaching evaluations. For example, peer teaching evaluations, ASCSU student survey scores and comments, and unsolicited comments from students for three courses taught at CSU within the past three years (different courses if possible). These are not required for the undergraduate research mentoring award, but may be replaced by similar evaluations of mentoring ability.
GRADUATE STUDENT TEACHING AWARD

Nominations due 5:00pm Wednesday, February 25, 2015
All nominations must be filed electronically at http://cns.natsci.colostate.edu/faculty/awards/

Eligibility To be eligible for these awards, a graduate student must:
• Have completed at least two semesters as a graduate student in the College of Natural Sciences as of January 1, 2015.
• Not have previously received this award.

Award Criteria
1. Quality Excellent performance in the classroom, recitation, or laboratory.
2. Initiative Commitment to and interest in the educational process beyond that required by their appointment. For example, involvement in activities related to teaching but taking place outside of the classroom (clubs, review sessions, committees, etc.), innovation in instruction, development of instructional technologies, extraordinary teaching responsibilities, etc.
3. Breadth Diversity of courses taught as well as specific teaching responsibilities (instructor, co-instructor, teaching assistant, teaching fellow, etc.).

Nomination Packet for Faculty Awards
The nomination packet should include the following components:

1. Cover sheet with the nominee's name and department (and “Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Award”).
2. Two-page curriculum vitae highlighting information relevant to the award.
3. List of all courses they taught or assisted in teaching as a graduate student at CSU.
4. A letter of nomination (not to exceed three pages) written by a faculty member who has first-hand knowledge of the teaching assistant’s effectiveness, addressing the award criteria defined above.
5. One seconding letter (not to exceed two pages) from either a faculty member or student, which should include student input in some manner.
6. Summary sheets of course evaluations from two courses (can be from the same or different courses). For example, supervising instructor evaluations, ASCSU student survey scores and comments, and unsolicited comments from students.
POSTDOC / GRADUATE STUDENT UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MENTORING AWARD

Nominations due 5:00pm Wednesday, February 25, 2015
All nominations must be filed electronically at http://cns.natsci.colostate.edu/faculty/awards/

Eligibility To be eligible for these awards, a postdoc or graduate student must:
• Have completed at least two semesters as a postdoc or graduate student in the College of Natural Sciences as of January 1, 2015.
• Not have previously received this award.

Award Criteria
1. Quality Consistent and substantial record of involvement in activities relevant to the award category.
2. Initiative Commitment to and interest in the educational process beyond that required by their appointment.
3. Quality Evidence of the high quality of the undergraduate research mentoring activity.

Nomination Packet for Faculty Awards
The nomination packet should include the following components:

1. Cover sheet with the nominee's name and department and “Postdoc / Graduate Student Undergraduate Research Mentoring Award”.
2. Two-page curriculum vitae highlighting information relevant to the award.
3. A letter of nomination (not to exceed three pages) written by a faculty member who has first-hand knowledge of the postdoc or graduate student’s effectiveness, addressing the award criteria defined above.
4. One seconding letter (not to exceed two pages) from the undergraduate student or students engaged in the mentored research activity.