

The Outstanding and Distinguished Educator Awards recognize faculty for their excellence in teaching. All full-time faculty who have taught at SUU for at least 3 years are eligible to be nominated. Nominations are solicited from the campus community and evaluated by a Faculty Senate Committee that is made up of a faculty representative from each College/School. Finalists are evaluated using additional pieces of evidence, which include a statement of teaching philosophy, a confidential letter from the department chair, student feedback from the previous 3 semesters, and optional in-class teaching reviews completed by a peer instructor. Student feedback will be used only to identify any significant, widespread issues that would disqualify a nominee from receiving one of these awards, and will not be used to compare nominees.

Nomination prompts

1. How long have you known the nominee and in what capacity?
2. Provide evidence of how the nominee uses effective teaching approaches.
3. Provide evidence of how the nominee provides students with effective feedback.
4. Provide evidence of how the nominee has supported, connected with, engaged, and/or encouraged students in and/or outside of the classroom.
5. What sets this nominee apart from other faculty?
6. Additional comments.

Finalist materials

1. Statement of teaching philosophy.
2. Letter from department chair.
3. Student feedback from the past 3 semesters.
4. Optional: One or more in-class teaching reviews completed by a peer instructor within the past 3 years.

Initial nominees and finalists will be evaluated using the following rubric.

	Supported by several examples (3), supported by one example (2), supported, but without specific examples (1), not addressed (0)	There is evidence that the practice is: central to the nominee’s teaching (3), used moderately (2), used infrequently (1), not used (0)	There is evidence that the nominee: uses the practice expertly (3), uses the practice proficiently (2), is developing their use of the practice (1), does not use the practice (0)	There is evidence that the practice: significantly enhances student learning (3), helps students learn (2), does not impact students (1), is not used (0)
*Using experiential education.				
*Fostering student success.				
*Maintaining positive relationships with students.				
Exploring innovative teaching methods and integrating those that work.				
Reflecting on teaching practices.				
Engaging in professional development related to teaching.				

* The first 3 categories will be weighted twice as heavily as the last 3.