13. RECOGNISING EXCELLENT TEACHING

Curtin Teaching Awards

The Curtin Awards for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching (EIT) are awarded annually and provide recognition and reward for outstanding performances, by both individuals and teams, in teaching and in enhancing student learning. The awards are aligned with the Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT) awarded nationally by the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) in the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE). The Curtin EIT awards include two additional categories recognising excellence and innovation in teaching in the First Year Experience and by Sessional Teachers. Each award winner receives a certificate and a grant.

All members of Curtin academic staff whether full-time or part-time, teaching in undergraduate or postgraduate programs, on-shore or off-shore, are eligible to nominate, provided they have taught at Curtin for at least two years. Nominees should refer to each category of awards for more detailed eligibility guidelines. Each of the EIT awards has differing requirements and selection criteria. Applicants should refer to the appropriate guidelines for selection criteria, selection process and timelines. For guidelines, nomination forms and templates see www.ctl.curtin.edu.au/teaching_learning/eit/. The Award programs include:

Awards for Teaching Excellence: There are ten award categories with up to ten awards granted at the discretion of the Curtin EIT Awards Committee.

Awards for Programs that Enhance Learning: There are seven award categories with up to five awards granted at the discretion of the Curtin EIT Awards Committee.

Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning: This award category recognises the diverse contributions that individuals and teams make to the quality of student learning at Curtin. There are up to eight awards granted at the discretion of the Curtin EIT Awards Committee. Citations are also open to non-academic staff and university associates who make a contribution to student learning.

Faculty Awards: Each Faculty also offers awards to recognise outstanding teaching. For details, refer to your Faculty website or contact the appropriate Dean Teaching and Learning.

Australian Awards for University Teaching

The Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) in the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE) has responsibility for the co-ordination of the Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT). The awards are highly competitive and involve an intensive selection process to assess the achievements of applicants. The AAUT comprises five award types: Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning; Awards for Programs that Enhance Learning; Awards for Teaching Excellence; Prime Minister’s Award for Australian University Teacher of the Year; and Career Achievement Award. Curtin nominees to the AAUT are selected by an internal
University committee and are supported in developing their application. For more information see

**eScholar Program**

The eScholars Program aims to support academic staff from across the university to implement new technologies in learning and teaching. A $10,000 grant is available for each successful application, which may involve an individual applicant or a team of applicants. Applications are requested in October and in the following year scholars implement technology enhanced learning strategies, reflect on the outcomes and share their experiences with colleagues. For further information see www.ctl.curtin.edu.au.

**Teaching Performance Index (TPI)**

The TPI scheme rewards individuals and groups for the quality of their engagement in practices aimed at improving teaching. Evidence may include, for example, good eVALUate reports, publication of Unit Summary Reports, teaching grants or awards, curriculum development and scholarship in teaching and learning. See www.ctl.curtin.edu.au/quality_teaching_learning/tpi.cfm.

**Academic staff promotion**

Continuing and fixed term academic staff are eligible to apply for promotion which, at all levels, is based on an applicant’s contribution towards the University’s vision, mission, goals and values, specifically in teaching and learning, research/creative works, leadership and service. For further information, see www.staff.curtin.edu.au/staffservices/ac-promo/index.cfm.