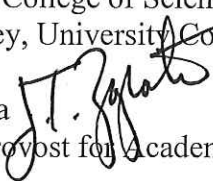


MEMORANDUM

Date: November 8, 2017

TO: John Murphy, College of Architecture, Construction and Planning
Wm. Gerard Sanders, College of Business
Margo DelliCarpini, College of Education and Human Development
JoAnn Browning, College of Engineering
Sean Kelly, Honors College
Dan Gelo, College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Rogelio Saenz, College of Public Policy
George Perry, College of Sciences
Heather Shipley, University College

FROM: Jesse T. Zapata 
Senior Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Support

SUBJECT: Nominations for the 2018 UTSA President's Distinguished Diversity Awards

The President's Distinguished Diversity Awards are annual awards that bestow the highest level of recognition to individuals or groups for work that helps the UTSA community think about and practice diversity and inclusion in creative and collaborative ways.

The nomination period is now open for the 2018 UTSA President's Distinguished Diversity Awards. Faculty, staff and students (individuals and groups) are eligible to be nominated for this award. President's Distinguished Diversity Award recipients will be recognized at the University Excellence Awards Ceremony on April 19, 2018.

Two faculty/staff awards of up to \$1,000 will be given; one to an individual and one to a group. Two student awards of up to \$500 will be given; one to an individual and one to a group.

These awards especially seek to recognize efforts to engage the UTSA community in cross-cultural activities to demonstrably extend their knowledge of communities different from their own and/or to enhance their multicultural competence for working with diverse communities at UTSA, San Antonio, Texas, and beyond. In this sense, we envision the awards to not simply reflect and encourage service to our diverse community, although doing so is sufficient for nomination. Ideally, the awards will also advance UTSA's academic mission to produce multiculturally experienced community members who then become the country's multiculturally skilled and inclusive professionals and leaders.

For this particular award, **the department or college does not vet nominations**. As such, we are simply asking for your support in sharing this information with the faculty in your colleges.

Complete nomination packets must be submitted electronically to diversityawards@utsa.edu by **Friday, January 30, 2018**.

Requests for additional information should be directed to the Office of Academic and Faculty Support at 458-2700 or diversityawards@utsa.edu.

Thank you for sharing this information widely amongst your faculty.

JTZ/ss
Attachments

cc:
Taylor Eighmy
C. Mauli Agrawal
Maricela Oliva
Department Chairs
ASOs



2018 President's Distinguished Diversity Awards Nomination Packet Information

The University encourages an environment of dialogue and discovery where **integrity, excellence, inclusiveness, respect, collaboration** and **innovation** are fostered. In keeping with [UTSA Core Values](#), the President's Distinguished Diversity Awards are annual awards that bestow the highest level of recognition to individuals or groups for work that helps the UTSA community think about and practice diversity and inclusion in creative and collaborative ways. The awards especially seek to recognize efforts to engage students in cross-cultural activities to demonstrably extend their knowledge of communities different from their own and/or to enhance their multicultural competence for working with diverse communities at UTSA, San Antonio, Texas, and beyond. In this sense, we envision the awards to not simply reflect and encourage service to our diverse community, although doing so is sufficient for nomination. Ideally, the awards will also advance UTSA's academic mission to produce multiculturally experienced community members who then become the country's multiculturally skilled and inclusive professionals and leaders.

Categories:

1. **Faculty and Staff members** – Two awards of up to \$1000 will be given. One award will recognize any individual faculty/staff member and another award will recognize a group comprised of any combination of individuals (faculty and/or staff), academic department, unit, or office.
2. **Students** – Two awards of up to \$500 will be given. One award will recognize an individual student, while another award will recognize a group of students.

All award amounts are listed before taxes. Winners will receive their award alongside the President's Distinguished Achievement Awards at the annual University Excellence Awards ceremony held on April 19, 2018.

The selection committee requires a Nomination Packet for consideration for this award. The Nomination Packet includes: (1) the nomination form, (2) a nomination statement, and (3) a letter of support.

- The nomination statement and the letter of support should each be at least one page long, but should not exceed five pages.
- Please write descriptively for readers who may not be familiar with the work being nominated for consideration. Use Times New Roman 12 pt. font.

The PDDA Student/Student Group Award recipients should display some or all of the following characteristics:

- Identified by peers, faculty, staff, or the community as a diversity and inclusion champion, embodying [UTSA Core Values](#).
- Advocates for diverse populations at the university.
- Promotes and fosters community by either sharing awareness and understanding of how persons or groups identify or by learning about the value of diversity and inclusion for future collaboration within society.
- Collaborates with key stakeholders such as faculty, staff, and departments, student organizations on campus and in the community to garner support / cast a wider net for their cause.

- Creates an environment of equity, social justice, and inclusion for students and groups in the university and larger community.
- Addresses all of the issues aforementioned with the greater San Antonio community and beyond.

The PDDA Faculty/Staff Individual and Group Award recipients should display some or all of the following characteristics:

- Identified by peers, faculty, staff, or the community as a diversity and inclusion champion, embodying [UTSA Core Values](#).
- Develops innovative initiatives to enhance diversity and inclusion within the university.
- Serves on programs and activities that promote the development of multicultural understanding and cross-cultural competence.
- Coordinates and/or implements initiatives that create a supportive/inclusive environment.
- Creates an environment of equity, social justice, and inclusion for students and groups in the university and larger community.
- Provides evidence of positive outcomes or impact from their work.
- Demonstrates connection of diversity and inclusion activities to research and scholarly activities.

The following serve as examples of information to include in the nomination statement/letters:

- Incorporates a clear statement of importance of diversity and inclusion in group or department mission statement.
- Recruits, retains, and serves students, faculty, and staff from underrepresented groups.
- Increases the retention and graduation rates of students from underrepresented groups.
- Provides mentoring/advising for students from underrepresented groups.
- Provides mentoring for junior faculty and staff from underrepresented groups.
- Develops and implements learning activities that prepare students for a diverse and global society.
- Integrates diversity into the curriculum.
- Supports research, service and scholarships in the area of diversity.
- Provides opportunities or professional development of faculty, staff and students from underrepresented groups.
- Develops activities or partnerships with minority-serving institutions, visiting scholars and guest lecturers from underrepresented groups.

Do not submit articles, pictures, video tapes, DVDs, or links to online content. These items will not be considered and we cannot ensure that these items will be returned to you.

All accomplishments by the nominees should have taken place, or culminated, within the past three academic years (2015-2016 through 2017-2018).

The Nomination Packet must be submitted in full. Incomplete or late Nomination Packets will not be considered. Nomination Packets must be received no later than January 30, 2018.

Faculty/Staff Nomination Packet materials should be submitted electronically to:
The Office of Academic and Faculty Support via email DiversityAwards@utsa.edu.

Student Nominations should be submitted via RowdyLink.

Email DiversityAwards@utsa.edu or call 458-2700 with any questions.



2018 President's Distinguished Diversity Awards Nomination Form

Please check the one box that best describes this nomination:

☐ Faculty/Staff Individual

☐ Student Individual

☐ Faculty/Staff Group

☐ Student Group

Name of Individual Nominee or Lead Contact for a group*: _____

Work telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Group membership must be limited to 10 members or less. Please list the members you are nominating in the nomination letter.

All awards aim to recognize individuals or groups that demonstrate the highest level of commitment to overall excellence of diversity and inclusion in their achievements.

Name of Nominator: _____

Title: _____

Work telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Nomination Packets are considered complete if they include the nomination form, the nomination statement, and a letter of support. Please see the next page for details, including page limits.

The nomination form, nomination statement and letter of support (Nomination Packet) must be received no later than January 30, 2018.

Nomination Packets materials should be submitted to:

The Office of Academic and Faculty Support via email DiversityAwards@utsa.edu.
For any questions please email DiversityAwards@utsa.edu before submitting any materials.