Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, Teaching, and Service through Diversity

Overview

The Provost and President have established a new Cornell Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, Teaching and Service through Diversity. This university-wide award is aimed at tenure track or tenured faculty members. Two faculty will each be selected to receive a $15,000 award.

Objective

To recognize and reward distinctive, outstanding and sustained research or creative work, teaching/mentoring, and/or service/outreach that advance diversity at Cornell University. Diversity is defined broadly as the variety of cultures, world views, values and personal experiences that may result from differences including but not limited to, race, ethnicity, national origin/immigration status, gender, age, religion, abilities, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

Criteria

The award will recognize outstanding accomplishments and general impact in any or all of the following areas:

Research or Creative Work

Advancement of new knowledge or creative work that advances understanding of diversity/inclusion in the nominee’s field of study and/or has the potential to improve the quality of life among underrepresented groups in the nominee’s field of study.

Engagement in innovative research that enhances our understanding of diversity and improves access and opportunity.
Teaching/Mentoring

Development and implementation of effective strategies for teaching that advance the education of students from underrepresented groups; activities can include innovative classroom instruction and advising (undergraduate or graduate students).

Mentoring undergraduate or graduate students who are members of groups which are historically or currently underrepresented in their field and/or whose background and experiences contribute to campus diversity.

Creating curricula that enable the development of student intercultural competence to navigate today’s global and multicultural realities.

Implementing effective strategies/policies that address barriers preventing the full participation of students from historically or currently underrepresented groups in higher education and the professoriate.

Service/Outreach

Promoting the professional and/or academic advancement of underrepresented groups in the applicant’s field as well as their well-being;

Enhancing diversity and equal opportunity through activities such as recruitment and mentoring of faculty and students;

Participating in exceptional sustained committee or administrative service that has significantly enhanced policy or processes that advance the principles of equity and inclusion.

Crucial contributions to campus culture, practices, or programs that have had a demonstrable and important effect in helping the campus achieve diversity and inclusion.

Nomination Process

Faculty, staff, and students may nominate tenured and tenure track faculty. Nominations are to be sent to ofdd@cornell.edu. Faculty may also submit a self-nomination. All nominations must include:

- Stage 1
  A letter of nomination, paying particular attention to how the nominee’s activities reflect the criteria noted above (max 500 words);

- Stage 2
  Candidates selected to move to the final selection stage will have to submit:
- A letter of support from the chair and dean of the nominee;
- Two letters of support from individuals who can provide testimony to the extent and effectiveness of the nominee’s contributions; at least one letter should be from a member of the Cornell community;
- A CV demonstrating the track record of the nominee in the areas described above;
- Any supporting documents as appropriate (e.g., media coverage, teaching evaluations).

Letters of nominations are due on October 3, 2019. Follow up materials are due November 16. Awards are to be announced on December 16, 2019.