

# **Distinguished Teaching & Learning Award (DTLA)**

In recognition of Exemplary Teaching Practice

Updated February 15, 2018

## **Purpose:**

The purpose of this recognition program is to provide a framework to recognize full-time or part-time faculty members who have established an exemplary, creative and effective teaching technique, practice, or activity at South Texas College.

## **Procedure:**

- **Committee Formation:**  
Each division will nominate two representatives for the DTLA Selection Committee.
- **Committee Chair:**  
The Office of Professional and Organizational Development will lead the recognition efforts with the Associate Dean acting as the Committee Chair.
- **Committee Membership:**  
The DTLA committee membership may include the Division Dean, faculty, staff, and students.
- **Committee responsibility:**  
The DTLA nomination committee will have the charge to review and evaluate the nominations. Once selected, potential award recipients will be notified and asked to present their specific teaching technique or strategy at the subsequent DTLA committee meeting. After all selected applicants have presented their teaching techniques, the committee will submit their final recommendations in writing to the Division of Academic Affairs. The number of faculty selected for DTLA is based on qualified submissions.
- **Selection Timeline:**  
The committee will finalize their selection by the end of April and forward the names of the faculty nominees along with the one-page Nomination Form describing the specific exemplary teaching practice to the Division of Academic Affairs and the OPOD.

## **Benefits:**

- DTLA award recipients will be recognized during the Academic Affairs Professional and Organizational Development Day at the beginning of each fall semester and receive the DTLA medal of recognition.
- DTLA web page will highlight each DTL award recipient's exemplary teaching practice.

- DTL award recipients will become part of an instructional resource group.
- DTLA recipients will qualify for another nomination after two years.

### **Criteria for Exemplary Teaching Practices:**

Exemplary teaching can include an effective, specific teaching technique, practice, and/or a teaching-related activity. Criteria for the DTL award can include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Practice is **transferable** to other courses and disciplines
2. Uses **innovative** teaching and learning techniques
3. Uses an effective **teaching practice** to achieve student learning outcomes
4. Uses innovative **in-class assessment** to guide student learning
5. Develops **techniques** to address learning styles and higher thinking skills
6. Develops **strategies** to aid in skills development
7. Provides **application of knowledge** through active learning and/or service learning
8. Uses **technology/multimedia** to foster student learning

### **Criteria for Selection:**

DTLA nomination committee will collect and review nominations. The committee members may select one or more of the following methods to make their selection:

- Finalist will be invited to meet with the committee to discuss their practice/technique/activity and answer committee questions.
- Committee members may visit the finalist and observe their teaching technique/practice/activity and report back to the full committee. In addition, the committee may review student evaluation of the faculty for prior semesters.

### **Submission of DTLA recipient's information:**

- The chair of the DTLA committee will finalize the nomination and selection process by the end of April.
- The chair will inform the Division Deans about the information regarding DTLA recipient(s).
- The chair will develop the one page nomination form, based on the related documents submitted by the nominee, and submit it to AVP for Academic Affairs and the OPOD in the first week of May.