


TO: Vice President Thomas Robinson
Deans: Jay Akridge, Richard Cosier, Dennis Depew, Leah Jamieson,
James Mullins, Jeffrey T. Roberts, Willie Reed,
MaryAnn Santos DeBarona, Dennis Savaiano, Mark Smith,
Craig Svensson, Irwin Weiser

FROM: Nancy Bulger, Assistant Provost 

DATE: January 14, 2010

SUBJECT: *Helping Students Learn Award*

Each year the Class of 1922 alumni sponsor an award for Outstanding Innovation in Helping Students Learn. Faculty, administrative/professional staff, and graduate students are eligible for consideration for this \$6,000 award.

The information about this award, along with the cover sheet which must accompany nominations, is attached. **Please forward this e-mail message to your faculty to inform them of this award.**

The deadline for submitting nominations for the Helping Students Learn Award is **5 pm on Friday, February 19**. Many thanks for bringing this information to the attention of those who teach in your college/school.

Attachment

cc: C. Ladisch

Nominations Invited

ANNUAL AWARD

for

OUTSTANDING INNOVATION IN "HELPING STUDENTS LEARN"

To improve the educational experiences of Purdue University students and to recognize those who develop innovative advancements in teaching, the alumni of the Class of 1922 have established a fund from which an annual award is to be given for outstanding innovation in helping students learn. If a single recipient is selected, the \$6,000 prize will be divided between a \$4,000 cash award and a \$2,000 academic expense account. If there are multiple winners, the distribution of the prize will be modified accordingly.

Eligibility

All Purdue University faculty, staff, and graduate students who have developed innovative techniques to help students learn are eligible for consideration. Candidates may either petition directly for this award or be nominated by Purdue colleagues, students, or alumni. Previous recipients of this award will not be considered for their work on the same innovation. However, they are eligible for consideration for innovative work using a different technique.

Criteria

For purposes of this award, an *innovation* is defined as something which is new, involving creativity and change, and which has for its purpose helping students learn. It includes any procedure, concept, or format which differs significantly from established or traditional teaching methodology and which purports to help students learn more effectively.

Guidelines for interpreting these criteria include the following:

1. The test of time may have to be overlooked in judging the educational effectiveness of an innovation. Therefore, the basis for an innovation must be theoretically sound. Though the probability of long-range success may be implied, there must be at least preliminary evidence, however, that the innovation works and has a significant effect on learning.
2. The innovative features of the teaching method or the materials must be operational during the period for which the award is being made even though the method may have been introduced earlier. Creativity in the development of instructional materials also will be considered for the award.

Criteria, continued

3. Other things being equal, innovations with broad applicability to other learning situations will be given preference.
4. The innovation may include economy of resources, but its primary purpose must contribute to the improvement of learning.
5. An innovation in teaching at any level (graduate, undergraduate, extension, continuing education, etc.) will be considered.

Nominations

Nominations should be accompanied by a completed cover sheet, which is attached, and a statement of no more than ten double-spaced pages. The statement should describe the innovation, its rationale and objectives, the impact the innovation has had on student learning, and the potential the innovation has for further development and/or application in other disciplines. Other information which the nominee feels is pertinent also may be incorporated in the ten-page statement. In addition, one or two letters of reference may be appended. *Since the initial screening, at least, will be based on a review of the statement and references, additional materials - tapes, disks, CDs, syllabi, etc. - should not be submitted.*

Eight copies of the nomination should be sent to the Helping Students Learn award committee, Office of the Provost, Hovde Hall, Room 100, Purdue University, West Lafayette campus. Nominations must be received no later than 5 pm, Friday, February 19, 2010.

Selection

The recipient(s) of this award will be determined by a selection committee composed of students, faculty, and alumni. The winner(s) will be announced at the University Honors Convocation on April 18, 2010.

Purdue University

**NOMINATION FORM FOR
HELPING STUDENTS LEARN AWARD**

Name of Nominee

Title

Department

Phone Number

Campus

Building

Title of Innovation

Name of Nominator

(if other than self)

Address

Phone

Nominations must be received by the Office of the Provost, Hovde Hall, Room 100, West Lafayette campus, no later than 5 pm, Friday, February 19, 2010.