

Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Outstanding Achievements in Interdisciplinary Innovation

The Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Outstanding Achievements in Interdisciplinary Innovation are aligned with Priority A (Achieve Distinction, Leadership, Advantage) of the UNE Strategic Plan, 2007-2010. These awards are presented each year to members of the University staff who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to achieving interdisciplinary, or inter-divisional, innovation by their actions and/or who have developed, promoted and/or implemented strategies to achieve interdisciplinary innovation at the University of New England (UNE).

Up to five Awards in this category will be available annually and will be presented to individuals and/or teams by the Vice-Chancellor at the annual Staff Awards Ceremony. The Awards recognise contributions to UNE over the preceding twelve months.

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Timelines

First working day – February 2009	Call for Applications/Nominations
Last working day – March 2009	Applications/Nominations close
Mid-April	Assessment Committee process
End April	Unsuccessful Applicants/Nominees notified; Successful Applicants/Nominees notified; Awards announced via UNE-Official
May	Presentation of Award(s) at Staff Awards Ceremony

Eligibility

All members of the University staff (including teams) will be eligible. A team may consist of a work team or unit who have worked together to achieve a particular outcome. Successful applicants/nominees are ineligible to apply/be nominated again within three years of receiving an Award. Applicants who have been employed at UNE for less than 12 months are not eligible.

Assessment Criteria

These Awards are intended to recognise the diverse contributions that staff have made, individually or in teams, to achieve interdisciplinary innovation at UNE in the workplace in the twelve months preceding the closing date. Applications/nominations must be supported by evidence that clearly demonstrates how the applicants/nominees have:

- addressed the University's objectives of Priority A in the UNE Strategic Plan 2007-2010;
- provided evidence that the contribution has influenced leadership distinction;
- been sustained over time and gained recognition from staff, the institution and/or the broader community;
- assisted the University to improve its outcomes related to Priority A;
- contributed to building leadership capacity among staff/students;
- enhanced the working or learning environment for staff/students;
- provided a capacity for long-term impact within the University community (local, regional, global).

In addition, team applications/nominations should demonstrate highly collaborative approaches to their contribution to interdisciplinary innovation and show evidence of the effectiveness of their collaboration against the assessment criteria.

Projects/Innovations

Possible projects/innovations include (but not limited to):

- facilitate interdisciplinary research-based innovation by bringing together discipline skills and developing regionality expertise across UNE to contribute to problem solving at local, national and global levels (A1);
- develop programs across industries, sectors and disciplines to attract high-profile funding and motivated, inventive staff to deliver on commitments (A1);
- critically examine research and teaching data to identify and monitor current and developing UNE strengths (A2);
- develop tools for building external and internal customer focus and strong service delivery in UNE administration and academic units (A3);
- substantially simplify UNE administration, through cultural and procedural change in all UNE parts, and refocus from processes to service and results orientation (E3).

Applications/Nominations

Application/Nomination forms can be obtained from the following web address:

<http://www.une.edu.au/od/vc-awards.php>

In addition to the statement providing demonstrated evidence against the criteria, an abbreviated CV of each applicant/nominee of no more than 2 pages (outlining workload, responsibilities and significant achievements) should be attached.

Assessment Process

Submitted applications/nominations will be assessed by an Awards Committee comprising the Vice-Chancellor [Chair], Director of Human Resource Services, Academic Staff Council Member, General Staff Council Member and PVC-Deans, a Head of School, or their nominees.

The Chair can co-opt other Committee members if required.

The Vice-Chancellor reserves the right not to assign Awards in any year. Results of the assessment process will be final and no appeal arises from the Committee's decisions.

Value of Awards

Award recipients (either an individual or a team) will receive a Certificate and \$2000. The amount of any team Award will be divided equally between the members of the team.

Winners will have the option of receiving this amount of money as an additional salary payment; or it can be used for:

- attendance at courses or conferences relevant to their work and approved by Head of Cost Centre; or
- purchase of equipment approved by Head of Cost Centre, to an equivalent value, subject to meeting the purchasing requirements of the University.