

2007 ACORN AWARD

Nomination Packet

Objective: To identify and reward exceptional teaching at Kentucky's colleges and universities. The awards will be publicized throughout the Commonwealth to raise the level of awareness of the great contribution made by faculty of Kentucky's colleges and universities.

Qualifications/eligibility: The Acorn Award, first given in 1992 by the Kentucky Advocates, goes to outstanding teachers at Kentucky's public or independent colleges and universities and includes an honorarium. Two awards will be presented – one to a faculty member from a four-year institution and one to a faculty member from the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. The awards will be presented during the Governor's Conference on Postsecondary Education Trusteeship September 16, 2007, at The Brown Hotel in Louisville. Recipients must attend the award ceremony in order to be eligible.

Nomination process: The presidents' offices of Kentucky's colleges and universities will coordinate the nomination process for faculty on their campuses.

Selection process: A selection committee will review all applications and make the selections. All decisions are at the sole discretion of the selection committee and are final. Decisions are made without regard to age, sex, race, religion, color, or national origin.

The nomination packet must include the following:

1. Application form: This form is available on the Council on Postsecondary Education's Web site at <http://cpe.ky.gov/calendar/statewide/2007+Trusteeship+Conference.htm>.
2. Three letters of recommendation from any of the following: colleagues, students, parents, community leaders. All letters of recommendation must have been written within the last three years. Existing letters, or excerpts, are permissible. Should an existing letter be used, the author and date received should be indicated. Letters should not exceed one page. Do not include more than three letters.
3. Three supporting documents:
 - *Teaching as a profession:* Applicants should briefly explain (1-2 pages) reasons for selecting college teaching as a profession. Questions that applicants may want to consider: What motivates you to continue to teach? What is the most important thing you do for your students? How do you address student needs and individual learning styles? What has been the most rewarding part of your teaching experience? Applicants may want to describe creative activities and teaching methods used to guide students to engage in critical thinking, demonstrate confidence, persevere, or work.
 - *Teaching philosophy:* Applicants should briefly explain (1-2 pages) their philosophy of teaching. Questions that applicants may want to consider: How do your strengths and weaknesses impact your teaching effectiveness? How should a college teacher's effectiveness be measured? What would you do to improve the teaching profession to meet challenges facing postsecondary education today and in the future?

- *Professional achievement:* Applicants should briefly list (1 page) teaching awards, workshops, courses, seminars, practicums, staff exchanges, writings, organizational memberships/offices, and individual achievements that are representative of their commitment to lifelong learning.

Nominees should note the following when preparing the nomination packet:

- All submitted materials are subject to verification.
- No enhancements, photographs, or decorations are permitted on the cover or elsewhere in the application materials. If selected to receive an award, the Council staff will request an electronic photo from the reward recipient.
- Do not include audio or video materials with the nomination packet.
- Nominees who applied in previous years must reapply to be considered.
- Please do not exceed the number of pages allotted to each section of the nomination packet. Applications that exceed the specified number of pages will not be considered. Please try to be as brief as possible.
- Nomination materials will not be returned.
- If selected, nominees will be asked to complete a consent form (available on the Council's Web site at <http://cpe.ky.gov/calendar/statewide/2007+Trusteeship+Conference.htm>).

The nomination packet should be sent to the Council on Postsecondary Education and must be postmarked no later than July 31, 2007. Send to:

Phyllis L. Bailey
Senior Associate, Executive Relations
Council on Postsecondary Education
Suite 320
1024 Capital Center Drive
Frankfort KY 40601
(502) 573-1555 x284
phyllis.bailey@ky.gov

2007 ACORN AWARD Application Form

(to be completed by the nominee)

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|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Full legal name: | | | |
| | <i>First</i> | <i>Middle</i> | <i>Last</i> |
| Home address: | | | |
| City: | County: | State: | Zip: |
| Home telephone: | Office telephone: | | |
| Email address: | | | |
| PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION: | | | |
| <i>Degree</i> | <i>Institution & Location</i> | | <i>Date</i> |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| REFERENCES <i>(can be same individuals as used for letter of reference):</i> | | | |
| <i>Name</i> | <i>Address</i> | | <i>Phone</i> |
| 1) | | | |
| 2) | | | |
| 3) | | | |
| Current institution: | | | |
| Institution address: | | | |
| City: | State: | Zip: | |
| List classes currently teaching: | | | |
| 1) | | 4) | |
| 2) | | 5) | |
| 3) | | 6) | |
| Years in present position: | | Total years teaching experience: | |
| List subject(s) taught during entire teaching experience: | | | |
| 1) | | 4) | |
| 2) | | 5) | |
| 3) | | 6) | |
| Previous teaching experience: | | | |
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Institution & Location</i> | | <i>Position</i> |
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