Service-learning awards nomination criteria and form

Service-Learning Award Guidelines and Nomination Form

Service-learning is a mutually beneficial endeavor in which course learning objectives are met by addressing community-identified needs--putting academics into practice.

Criteria for service-learning designation:

- Service project must enhance understanding of course learning objectives
- Students provide at least 15 hours of service during the semester with some exceptions.
- Must include critical reflection of student’s experiences
- Projects must serve a genuine community need
- Must be a reciprocal partnership among community partners, students, and professors/instructors/staff

Eligibility

Must be Western Michigan University faculty or staff, student, or community partner.

Number of Awards

Nine awards will be given to three faculty/staff members, three students, and three community partners.

Nature of Awards

Award winners will receive a plaque and public recognition for her/his commitment to service-learning at the annual Service-Learning Awards Celebration.

Origins of Nominations

Entire University community including staff, faculty, and students, as well as the greater Kalamazoo community.

Criteria

Candidates must demonstrate dedication to outstanding service-learning. The following criteria should be used as a guide:

- Engagement in service-learning, defined as a mutually beneficial endeavor in which course learning objectives are met by addressing community-identified needs.
- Students must provide at least 15-20 hours of service during the semester (15-20 is the recognized academic standard; however, consideration will be given to those who serve less than 15 hours).
- Engaged in service-learning that includes reflection of the work, interactions, and learning regarding the service.
- Effective collaboration among community partners, students, and professors/instructors/staff.
- Finding innovative solutions to problems.
- Projecting a positive attitude and/or promoting a positive image of the University and service-learning.
**Administration/ Selection**

The Office of Service-Learning will collect forms, organize and preserve anonymity, and disseminate for review by selection committee members.

**Review Committee**

Compromised of five individuals (i.e., WMU faculty/staff, students, and community partners).

**Awards Notification**

The Office of Service-Learning will notify nominees via email and telephone, and award winners will be announced at the first annual Service-learning Awards Celebration at 5:15 p.m. on April 12, 2012 at the Fetzer Center. Please also join the Nonprofit Celebration: honoring the gift of giving, at 4:30 p.m.. Hors d’oeuvres and networking opportunities will be available at 4:00 and 5:15 p.m. for both events.
Nomination Form

Nominee:

Department/ Organization:

Email:

Phone:

Circle one: Community Partner Faculty/staff Student

Nominator:

Department/ Organization:

Email:

Phone:

Nominations are due by ___________ at 5:00 p.m.

Please give specific examples of why your nominee deserves to receive the Service-learning Award. Selection is based on the information you, the nominator, provide for the committee. To assure your nominee will remain anonymous, please do not use your nominee’s name or department affiliation in your explanation. Maximum 500 words.