

# DASSH Awards for Leadership in Excellence and Innovation: Guidelines

DASSH Awards for Excellence and Innovation are made in recognition of the outstanding work of staff in Australasian HASS faculties each year. The Awards celebrate the efforts of those involved and promote their achievements across the region, with the aim of inspiring new initiatives and sharing best practice approaches in our member faculties.

The Awards are offered across six categories:

- Education Innovation and Employability
- Engagement and Public Communication
- Indigenous
- International
- Professional Development
- Research Partnership and Social Impact

One Award will be offered in each category each year to the nominee who best addresses the selection criteria of the category.

The Awards are of no monetary value and confer no rights or privileges within the organisation.

## Eligibility and Selection Criteria - All Categories

Nominations must be signed and submitted by either a Dean, Deputy Dean or Associate Dean (or functional equivalent, e.g., Executive Dean, Pro Vice-Chancellor) of a DASSH-member faculty and consist of a completed nomination form.

Nominators may submit multiple nominations, but nominees may be nominated once and in a single category only each year.

Nominees must be employed in DASSH-member faculties and the relevant activities described in the nomination form must have been conducted as part of their employment. Self-nominations are welcome.

The majority of activity/ies outlined in a nomination must have been undertaken in the twelve months prior to the submission of the nomination. Nominations detailing longer-term initiatives may be considered at the discretion of the assessment committee if substantial progress is found to have been made in the preceding year.

Nominations must describe a discrete initiative or achievement led by the nominee rather than career excellence. The initiative should highlight the value and necessity of excellent leadership within university divisions.

Nominations are to be submitted via email to [office@dassh.edu.au](mailto:office@dassh.edu.au) before 5PM on the day of the deadline.

## Selection Criteria – Education Innovation and Employability

Excellence, as demonstrated by measurable impacts of an initiative led by the nominee which reflects innovative and effective approaches to learning and teaching practices within a HASS discipline, department of faculty. Learning and teaching is defined broadly and includes undergraduate, postgraduate and research student instruction or supervision, all modes of course delivery, and work-integrated learning (WIL) initiatives as well as employability programs.

Innovation, as demonstrated by the creativity and/or novelty of the initiative led by the nominee.

## Selection Criteria – Engagement and Public Communication

This award aims to recognize excellence in public engagement and communication by HASS academics with one or more non-academic communities or makes a significant contribution to public debate.

Innovation, as demonstrated by the creativity and/or novelty of the initiative led by the nominee which improves engagement with non-academic communities, particularly communities which have had minimal or poor historical engagement with HASS academics.

## Selection Criteria – Indigenous

Excellence, as demonstrated by measurable impacts of an initiative led by the nominee which aims to improve the representation, inclusion, and contribution of Indigenous peoples of Australia and/or Aotearoa/New Zealand in the work of HASS faculties.

Innovation, as demonstrated by the creativity and/or novelty of the initiative led by the nominee.

## Selection Criteria – International

Excellence, as demonstrated by measurable impacts of an initiative led by the nominee which aims to improve the international connections of a HASS faculty, discipline or team.

Innovation, as demonstrated by the creativity and/or novelty of the initiative led by the nominee.

## Selection Criteria – Professional Development

Excellence, as demonstrated by measurable impacts of an initiative led by the nominee which aims to improve professional development opportunities for staff working in HASS faculties. The initiative may target academic, professional or technical support staff, regardless of tenure.

Innovation, as demonstrated by the creativity and/or novelty of the initiative led by the nominee.

## Selection Criteria – Research Partnership and Social Impact

Excellence, as demonstrated by measurable impacts of an initiative led by the nominee which through a partnership with a non-university group has had a demonstrable positive social impact on a community.

Innovation, as demonstrated by the creativity and/or novelty of the initiative led by the nominee.

## Assessment and Conferral

Nominations will be assessed according to the Eligibility and Selection Criteria by an Assessment Committee comprised of at least three members drawn from the DASSH Board and NOADD Leadership Team memberships and chaired by the President of the DASSH Board (or delegate). Separate Assessment Committees may be formed for each Award category.

Members of the Assessment Committee will be ineligible to receive Awards but may nominate others.

The Assessment Committee, in its discretion, may determine that no Award should be conferred in one or more categories in any given year if a nomination of sufficient merit is not received. In the event that multiple nominations are found to be of equal merit, the Assessment Committee may determine that an Award be shared by those nominees. The Assessment Committee may also determine that one or more nominees be given Honourable Mentions.

The winners of the Awards will be announced during the annual DASSH conference (or online equivalent). The names of winners, their institutions, and a brief summary of their work relevant to the Award may be published on the DASSH website and otherwise publicised in promotional activities and materials.