**2025 Faculty and Staff Honors and Awards Description, Criteria, and Requirements**

**Frank Sinton Milburn Outstanding Professor Award**

*Description:* The Outstanding Professor Award has been in place since 1970. The award was endowed and retitled in 1996 as the Frank Sinton Milburn Outstanding Professor Award as a result of a gift from Dr. Carol Swarts Milburn in memory of her husband. This award is designed to recognize outstanding achievement across the full spectrum of the NKU mission. Award amount: **$4,000**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) classroom teaching; 2) course/curriculum development; 3) scholarship and creative activity; 4) community service; 5) other efforts outside the classroom. This award is designed to recognize truly exceptional performance by a faculty member.

*Requirements:* Successful nominee must: 1) have at least three years full-time teaching services as a tenure-track faculty member; 2) be currently engaged in at least half-time teaching responsibilities; 3) give her or his consent to be nominated; 4) speak at the New Faculty Orientation in August, President’s Fall Convocation in August, and Fall Commencement in December; 5) demonstrate excellence in the areas mentioned above.

**Michael C.C. Adams and Susan S. Adams Outstanding Non-Tenure Track Faculty Member Award**

*Description:* The outstanding non-tenure track faculty award is designed to recognize and reward excellence in classroom instruction and contributions to the learning environment by teaching professors and visiting teaching professors of all ranks. Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) classroom teaching; 2) contributions to the learning environment; 3) contributions to the program or department; 4) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:* Successful nominee must: 1) have at least two consecutive years teaching as a full-time faculty member at NKU; 2) be employed as a full-time faculty member during the semester in which they are nominated.

**Excellence in Teaching and Instruction (3 Awards)**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a faculty member who demonstrates excellence and innovation in classroom teaching and learning.  Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominees will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) classroom, online, and/or hybrid teaching that results in improved student outcomes; 2) contributions to the learning environment; 3) projects or innovations that enhanced student learning, including active learning and high impact teaching practices; 4) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:*  Successful nominees must: 1) be a current NKU faculty member (full-time, part-time, tenure track or non-tenure track); 2) demonstrate excellence in classroom teaching and learning.

**Excellence in Research/Scholarship/Creative Activity (2 Awards)**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in research, scholarship or creative activity.  Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominees will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) a demonstrated track record and commitment to research, scholarship and creative activity; 2) projects or innovations related to research or creative activity; 3) evidence of outstanding research/scholarship/creative activity; 4) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:*  Successful nominees must: 1) be a current NKU faculty member (full-time, part-time, tenure track or non-tenure track); 2) demonstrate excellence in research/scholarship/creative activity.

**Excellence in Research/Creative Activity Mentoring**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in undergraduate research mentoring.  Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) projects or innovations which engage students in research/creative opportunities; 2) demonstrated commitment to mentoring and guiding student research/creative activity; 3) creative activities designed to enhance research at NKU; 4) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:*Successful nominee must: 1) be a current NKU faculty member (full-time, part-time, tenure track or non-tenure track); 2) demonstrate excellence in research mentoring.

**Excellence in Outreach and Engagement**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in outreach and engagement.  Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) demonstrated track record and commitment to outreach and engagement activities; 2) projects or innovations related to outreach and engagement; 3) creative outreach and engagement activities; 4) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:*  Successful nominee must: 1) be a current NKU faculty member (full-time, part-time, tenure track or non-tenure track); 2) demonstrate excellence in outreach and engagement.

**Excellence in Faculty University Service**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in university service.  Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) demonstrated track record and commitment to serving NKU; 2) evidence of service and leadership on committees/campus governance; 3) creative/innovative contributions to university initiatives and strategic goals; 4) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:* Successful nominee must: 1) be a current NKU faculty member (full-time, part-time, tenure track or non-tenure track); 2) demonstrate excellence in university service.

**Inclusive Excellence Award**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a faculty or staff member for distinguished leadership in advancing inclusive excellence.  Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate a commitment to advancing inclusive excellence, including but not limited to race, ethnicity/nationality, gender, sexual orientation, disability, spirituality, socioeconomic status, etc. in one or more of the following areas: 1) teaching and learning; 2) research and scholarship; 3) service to the university and the community; 4) improvement of programming and/or services; 5) inclusive leadership across campus; 6) enhancement of global perspectives in the campus community; 7) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:*  Successful nominee must: 1) be a current NKU full-time or part-time faculty or staff member; 2) demonstrate inclusive excellence at NKU and/or in the community.

**Excellence in Career and Professional Preparation**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a faculty or staff member who demonstrates excellence in student career and professional preparation.  Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate excellence in the following areas: 1) demonstrated track record and commitment to career and professional preparation; 2) projects, initiatives, or innovations related to career and professional preparation; 3) demonstrated positive effect on career and professional pathway education and student outcomes; 4) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:*  Successful nominee must: 1) be a current NKU faculty or staff member (full-time, part-time, tenure-track or non-tenure-track); 2) demonstrate excellence in career and professional preparation.

**Outstanding Staff Service Award (3 Awards)**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize the outstanding work and dedication of staff members who provide exemplary service and make significant contributions to the NKU community. Award amount: **$1,500**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will demonstrate a commitment to advancing student success in one or more of the following areas: 1) excellence in service to students, customers, and/or clients; 2) creation, implementation, and/or improvement of programs and services; 3) positive impact on the department, unit, and/or university; 4) enhanced unit efficiency and productivity through innovative approaches; 5) involvement of students in the planning, operation, and assessment of programs and services; 6) exceeds expectations of one’s job description; 7) strength of the nominating letters.

*Requirements:*  Successful nominee must: 1) be a current NKU full-time or part-time staff member in Academic and Student Affairs; 2) have been employed in current position for a minimum of two years.

**Outstanding Student Affairs Newcomer Award**

*Description:* This award is designed to recognize a new employee in Student Engagement and Inclusiveness or Student Conduct and Wellness who has provided exemplary effort and has shown potential for future leadership. Award amount: **$1,000**

*Criteria:* Successful nominee will have: 1) displayed an innovative or creative effort within the division or department; 2) demonstrated outstanding service; 3) consistently provided a positive impact on the student experience in his/her day to day interactions with students; 4) embraced the mission of Student Affairs and incorporated it into his/her own work; 5) participated in NKU events and displayed school spirit with students, faculty or staff; 6) indicated strong potential for future leadership roles.

*Requirements:*  Successful nominee must: 1) be a current NKU full-time or part-time staff member in Student Engagement and Inclusiveness or Student Conduct and Wellness; 2) have been employed at NKU since no earlier than August 1, 2023.