

Elsa A. Murano, Ph.D.
President

January 8, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans
Director, Center for Teaching Excellence
Student Body President
President, Graduate Student Council

SUBJECT: Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence Awards

In 2003, Texas A&M established two University level awards for excellence in teaching. These awards, titled "Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence," each carry a one-time, after tax stipend of \$25,000 in addition to salary. Each awardee bears the designation "Presidential Professor for Teaching Excellence" for the remainder of his or her career. The awards will be announced and presented at the spring commencement ceremonies.

I ask that the dean and faculty of each college, using the attached criteria and selection process information, nominate one member of the college faculty for these awards, making provision for taking student views into account. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee has recommended that each college nominate only one faculty member because of the burden of reviewing voluminous material for each nominee. The Center for Teaching Excellence, Student Government and the Graduate Student Council each also may nominate one member of the university faculty. I ask the Speaker of the Faculty Senate to appoint a committee to select four members of the faculty from among the nominees submitted by the colleges, the Center for Teaching Excellence, Student Government and the Graduate Student Council. These four nominees will be forwarded to me for decision as to the two awardees.

All members of the faculty, both tenured/tenure track and those who are not, and those teaching either or both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible for these awards. The most important criteria are commitment to and excellence in teaching in all its dimensions.

I ask that each Dean, the Center for Teaching Excellence, Student Government and the Graduate Student Council forward nominees to the Speaker of the Faculty Senate, Room 107 Academic Building, 1225 TAMU *by March 6, 2009*, so that selections can be made in time for our commencement in May 2009. Details about the nomination process and the selection criteria are attached. These documents can also be found on the Senate web site (<http://faculty senate.tamu.edu>) under the Awards section.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'EAM', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Elsa A. Murano

Attachment

cc: Executive Vice President and Provost
✓ Speaker, The Faculty Senate
Chair, Distinguished Professors
Chair, Council of Principal Investigators