The Jessica Melton Perry Award for Distinguished Teaching in Disciplinary & Professional Writing

Writing serves as the foundation of all work in the academy. And students learn to write well not only in first and second year courses devoted specifically to writing instruction, but also and more importantly in courses in their chosen fields of study. In recognition of this, the Jessica Melton Perry Award for Distinguished Teaching in Disciplinary & Professional Writing has been established by Edward S. & Melinda Melton Sadar, in honor of their daughter, in order to recognize excellence in writing instruction and mentorship in academic and professional disciplines other than English.

Each year one recipient will be recognized during Case’s Writing Week. For information about Writing Week, see: http://www.case.edu/writingweek/WW2011/jmpaward.html

Award Criteria

The Jessica Melton Perry Award is designed to spotlight the various ways in which students at Case develop writing skills that benefit not only their academic lives but also their future careers. By focusing on writing in disciplines other than English, the award seeks to honor teaching that has contributed to the development of student writing within academic and professional fields not always associated with writing instruction.

Tenure-track or non-tenure track faculty currently employed in any school or college of CWRU may be nominated for this award. Evidence of commitment to improving student writing may be drawn from nominees’ teaching materials, student feedback, curricular initiatives, or mentorship experiences that extend beyond the traditional classroom.

The Nomination Process

Nomination for the Jessica Melton Perry Award involves two steps:

**Step 1. Nomination Letter:**
A one-page nomination letter must be sent to the selection committee. Any current faculty member, student, instructor, or lecturer in any one of the colleges, schools, or departments of Case Western Reserve University may submit this nomination letter. Self-nominations are also welcome. The letter, which will be a major part of the evaluation packet, should clearly outline the specific qualities and activities that make this particular nominee an excellent candidate for the award. Letters that form the strongest cases will be those that illustrate how the candidate’s teaching and/or mentorship activities have helped students develop as more competent writers in their chosen fields.

These one-page letters do not require additional signatures, but additional statements of support (e.g., from department chairs or other colleagues) are welcome, as appropriate.

**Deadline for Nomination Letters:** Monday, March 14, 2011. (See address below)
**Step 2: Teaching/Mentorship Materials:**
All nominees will be contacted by email on or before Tuesday, March 15, and asked to submit two hard copies of a selection of supporting materials. These materials should consist of teaching- or mentoring-related documents that bear witness to the nominee’s commitment to writing instruction in his or her academic field.

For example, the nominee may send course syllabi, class handouts, writing assignments, URLs to active course or mentorship websites, letters from students or colleagues, and/or other self-generated resources that demonstrate the nominee’s commitment to improving student writing. **The collection of materials is limited to 50 pages total.**

In addition to these materials, a 1-2 page cover letter should be included to contextualize the material and provide a statement of the nominee’s philosophy for teaching disciplinary and/or professional writing.

**Deadline for Teaching/Mentorship Materials:** Monday, April 4, 2011. (See address below)

**The Selection and Announcement Process**

A committee formed by the Center for the Study of Writing will review all nomination materials. The awards will be decided at the beginning of April. The award recipient will be honored officially during the Writing Program Awards Celebration on Friday, April 22, 2011, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., in Guilford House (in the Parlor & Dining Room on the First Floor).

**Contact Information**

Send all nomination materials and address all questions to the following:

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