



Ed Wood Teaching Award 2008-09

The Centre for Bioscience launched the Ed Wood Teaching Awards scheme in 2009, to further recognise outstanding practice in learning and teaching in the biosciences.

Introduction

The awards provide an opportunity for bioscience academics to receive national recognition for their outstanding learning and teaching practices. They are open to all UK bioscience academics who work in higher education or who teach higher education in a further education establishment. Applicants are limited to one submission in a year.

What's in it for me if short listed?

- National recognition for your outstanding teaching practices
- A 2-page Case Study published on the Centre for Bioscience website
- The opportunity to demonstrate your work to a member of the Centre for Bioscience team who will watch the delivery, collect and collate valuable student feedback
- Anonymised student feedback, provided to you confidentially
- The opportunity to present your Case Study at a national event (expenses paid!)
- £150!

Application Process

Identify the best aspect of your teaching: Have you tried to modify your practices to enhance the teaching and learning for your students? Can you identify which of your teaching methodologies have been proven to enhance the student learning experience? If you think you have what it takes to stand out from the crowd then please submit an application to be considered for the Centre for Bioscience Teaching Award 2009. (Your teaching methodology should have been trialled before the forthcoming academic year - if you have an idea which you hope to introduce in 2008 - 2009, look out for next year's Awards!)

Submit your application using the online form: Only outline information is required at this stage: a brief description of your chosen teaching methodology (which has been proven to enhance the student learning experience); your rationale for introducing this; and evidence as to how effective the methodology has been.

Shortlist Process: The applications will be collated by the Centre for Bioscience and up to 6 applicants (dependent on quality) will be short listed by a review panel.

Case Studies

Short listed applicants will then work with members of the Centre for Bioscience Team over the academic year to develop a 2-page Case Study. View the cases studies from the 2009 Award.

Benefits

All short listed applicants will receive £150 on completion of their Case Study and an expenses paid trip to present their ideas at the Science Learning and Teaching Conference 2009. All Case Studies will be published on our website and in print form. The overall winner will be selected by the

Centre for Bioscience Teaching Award Panel and presented with a certificate at the Science Learning and Teaching conference in June 2009, where they will also receive an additional £500 towards expenses to present their work at a future conference of their choice.

Developing the Case Study

Short listed applicants will be allocated a member of the Centre for Bioscience Team to work with over the 2008/2009 academic year to develop a 2-page Case Study. This team member will assist with the collecting of data and writing of the Case Study.

Although the Case Study data might be gathered over quite a long time period (dependent on when your identified teaching methodology appears in the academic year and over what period), we have tried to design the process so that it is as easy as possible for you to get involved without a huge input of effort. We estimate that the whole process will take approximately 1-2 days of your time (possibly broken up into smaller chunks). View the cases studies from the 2009 Award

Key points to note at this stage

A member of the Centre for Bioscience team will go through the whole process with you and help organise each stage. They will provide you with as much support as reasonably possible.

Following initial informal conversations you will need to take part in two formal interviews with the team member - each approximately 30 to 40 minutes long.

You will need to enable the Centre for Bioscience team member to observe a relevant teaching session and meet a small group of students after the session. You will also be asked to support the distribution and collection of a questionnaire to your students, as these are an essential part of the process.

Questions?

Please contact the Centre for Bioscience if you have any questions.

Thank you to the Subject Centre for Engineering whose highly successful Teaching Awards, formed the basis for the development of our own Teaching Awards.