

Awards Program Review

(more information about the awards can be found at:

<http://www.ocasa.on.ca/member-services/awards>

Goal of Awards program (unofficial)

- to give recognition to administrative excellence
- to raise the profile of OCASA provincially
- to give recognition to OCASA members who further the mission of OCASA
- to raise profile of research being done that benefits Ontario's college system

Current Awards

See *Appendix 1: Awards Program Overview* for purpose of each award.

1. *Excellence Awards*:
 - a. Doug Light Award for Administrative Excellence - highest level, provincial/national contributions; conferred at Colleges Ontario Conference
 - b. Distinguished Administrator Award: Local/provincial contributions; conferred at the OCASA Awards Banquet (June conference)
2. *Volunteer Recognition Award* - conferred at the OCASA Awards Banquet
3. *Service Recognition Awards* - conferred at the OCASA Awards Banquet
4. *10 year member pin* - conferred at the OCASA Awards Banquet
5. *CMU-OCASA Research Award* - conferred at the OCASA Awards Banquet
6. *Student Bursary Award* - conferred at the OCASA Awards Banquet

Issues

1. Excellence Awards:
 - Very few submissions; time is an obvious factor
 - struggle to have Doug Light Award winners (criteria might be too demanding)
 - Tend to be a lifetime achievement awards
2. Volunteer Recognition Award:
 - Criteria limits potential candidates (provincial executive/board work is excluded)
 - Difficult to identify volunteers
 - Often the college rep who is also responsible for nominations

- OCASA office tends to prompt nominations

3. Service Recognition Awards

- Currently given to Board members

4. 10 year member pin

- No real issues, though few wear them at the conference; could have better awareness/promotion

5. CMU-OCASA Research Award

- Little control over nominations
- Relevance of papers might be limited from year to year
- May not have an administrative focus, granted to anyone, including faculty, support or admin.
- Limits research recognition to one institution

6. Student Bursary Award

- 4 awards of \$500 granted by region, as drawn from “a hat”
- not all regions have equal number of applications – an issue?

Possible gaps/Discussion ideas

- Nothing for younger, newer administrators
 - Awards that recognize innovation, collaboration, significant accomplishment
- do we want a lifetime achievement award (CO does this)
- introduce awards to support local ASA and its members
- Might be other research recognition opportunities (i.e. OISE)
- Might broaden definition for volunteer recognition award
- What does OCASA want to shine a spotlight on? (i.e. work life balance; innovation; leadership; etc.)

Recommendations

Appendix 1: Awards Program Overview

Note: all recipients must be OCASA members, except for CMU-OCASA Research Award.

1. *Excellence Awards:*

When OCASA formed in 1995, one of the first tasks of those early leaders was to recognize the achievements of their peers. College administrators have a strong history of being leaders in a system that is ever changing. Innovation, excellence, and significant contributions have helped to forge new programs, new centres of study and new ways of achieving goals.

Two excellence awards, one nomination package, one deadline. Based on the criteria submissions the review committee will decide which candidates meet the eligibility requirements for the Doug Light Award or the Distinguished Administrator Award.

Doug Light Award for Administrative Excellence –

The OCASA Doug Light Award for Administrative Excellence pays tribute to an administrator within the Ontario colleges who has demonstrated administrative excellence, provincially and/or nationally through:

- leadership (innovation, vision, enterprise, impact, involvement)
- contribution to others (students, college, college system, community)
- contribution to OCASA (locally, provincially)
- outstanding performance (team involvement, achievements, beyond job expectations, recognition by others).
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Distinguished Administrator Award:

Administrators within an Ontario college who have demonstrated distinguished administrative performance at the local or regional level thereby exhibiting the following criteria:

- Outstanding leadership that promotes collegiality and team work
- Consistent professionalism that invites respect and credibility amongst colleagues
- Significant outcomes demonstrating overall effectiveness
- Demonstrated support for the mission and strategic direction of OCASA

2. *Volunteer Recognition Award*

The Volunteer Recognition Award honours administrators within an Ontario college who have:

- made a significant contribution to the work of OCASA at the local, regional and/or provincial level
- volunteered time and energy without expectation for compensation
- represented OCASA's mandate, and have the support of OCASA peers

3. *Service Recognition Awards – Board of Directors*

4. *10 year member pin*

5. *CMU-OCASA Research Award*

The award is sponsored jointly by Central Michigan University (CMU) and Ontario College Administrative Staff Association (OCASA) to recognize the high quality of research being conducted in Ontario by CMU graduate students that impact the development of the colleges. This outstanding Research Award will be presented annually to Ontario students in CMU's Master of

Arts degree in Education, with a Community College concentration, for conducting outstanding research related to Community Colleges in Ontario. Nominees are first selected by CMU faculty with the OCASA review panel selecting the final recipients.

The award will be given during the OCASA Awards Banquet held during the OCASA Annual PD Conference, June 22, 2010, Blue Mountain Resort, Collingwood.

6. *Student Bursary Award*

This OCASA student bursary is designed for OCASA members who are furthering their professional development as a college employee through educational studies.

Eligible courses are those offered for credit through an academic institution or through a professional body for certification or designation. \$500 is granted to an eligible member in each of four geographic regions.