

## **Dr. Geraldine Thomas**

# **Educational Leadership Award**

The Dr. Geraldine Thomas Educational Leadership Award recognizes innovative educational leadership practices on the part of distinguished teachers at Saint Mary's University. It honours their commitment to educational leadership, innovative teaching practices and improving post-secondary teaching, with emphasis on institutional contributions that have impact beyond their own discipline or professional role.

The award was established in 2007 by the Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching (previously the Quality of Teaching Committee) with support from the Saint Mary's University Faculty Union (SMUFU). It is named for Dr. Geraldine Thomas who is a 3M National Teaching Fellow (1993) and founding member of the Quality of Teaching Committee. A former professor of Classics, she spent most of her academic career supporting efforts which improve teaching and learning within the University, the Atlantic region, and nationally.

### **Educational Leadership Award 2021**

*See reverse page for eligibility, criteria and nomination procedures*

**We, the undersigned, nominate**

**Professor** \_\_\_\_\_ **Department** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Nominators (please print)</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Signature</b>
----------------------------------	-------------------	--------------	------------------

- \* 1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

\* *Primary nominator/contact person*

**Please submit your nomination form to the Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching  
(c/o studio@smu.ca) by 5:00pm on April 19, 2021**

#### **Written Documentation**

In support of this nomination, follow-up written documentation must be submitted by April 30, 2021

#### **Please note:**

*Unless otherwise directed by the nominee or nominators, a complete copy of the nomination package will be provided to the nominee following the selection process.*

**For further information, please see the reverse of this form,  
or send a message via studio@smu.ca**

## **Dr. Geraldine Thomas Educational Leadership Award**

**Purpose:** to recognize a faculty member's excellence in, and long-term commitment to, the improvement of teaching within Saint Mary's University, and possibly beyond.

**Eligibility:** The award is open to faculty members who have completed at least five years of teaching service at Saint Mary's. Department Chairs are eligible as are recipients of teaching awards. Academic administrators (Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Deans) are not eligible for nomination.

**Selection Committee** will be a sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Learning and Teaching (SCLT).

**Criteria:** The Selection Committee will look for evidence that the nominee has provided leadership in developing institutional structures and processes, and in pursuing activities that help create an environment at Saint Mary's University in which teaching excellence is fostered and appreciated. For example, the nominee might have:

- Participated in organizing Saint Mary's ongoing efforts to improve the quality of instruction offered to students;
- Mentored colleagues, either formally or informally, in efforts to improve their teaching;
- Provided guidance to new faculty members;
- Organized or participated actively in workshops, symposia, conferences on university teaching;
- Been individually engaged in, or led collaborative efforts leading to, innovation in teaching approaches and subject-specific strategies, pedagogical materials development, and evaluation of learning, or,
- Developed a scholarly approach to teaching and learning

### **Nomination Deadlines:**

1. A Call for Nominations will be issued on behalf of the SCLT by **April 1, 2021**
2. A Nomination Form should be submitted to the SCLT via [studio@smu.ca](mailto:studio@smu.ca) by **April 19, 2021**
3. A follow-up Nomination Package should be submitted via [studio@smu.ca](mailto:studio@smu.ca) by **April 30, 2021**

### **Nomination Package** (written documentation) should include:

- A cover letter from the primary nominator outlining the rationale/supportive reasoning for the nomination, including evidence of the candidate's major strengths;
- Two additional letters of support from any of the four co-nominators with personal experience of the nominee's activities (maximum 2-pages per letter);
- Maximum 4-page curriculum vitae or teaching dossier focused on the nominee's contributions to the enhancement of teaching and learning;
- A one or two-page statement (dated, signed) from the nominee about his/her philosophy of teaching and educational development;
- Any documentary evidence relevant to the nominee's work in this area;
- Copy of a citation for any relevant award previously received by the nominee

For consultation on preparing a nomination package,  
please contact The Studio for Teaching and Learning - [studio@smu.ca](mailto:studio@smu.ca)

*When appropriate, the winner of this award will become Saint Mary's nominee for related regional and/or national awards. To meet criteria for other awards, applicants for this award are required to follow the above guidelines and prepare a package consisting of a maximum of twenty pages.*