

Unitec Excellence Awards 2023 – Ngā Tohu Kairangi o Wairaka 2023

Awards celebration: Thursday 30 November

Nominations close 11.59pm, Sunday 29 October

Notes

- The 'teaching' categories (green table below) are for staff in a teaching and/or research role.
- All staff are eligible for the 'other' awards (blue table below), except the 'Excellence in Support' which is for staff members in a support role.
- The staff awards team may move a nominee to a different category if their nomination is better suited to those criteria.
- The 'Excellence in Teaching' and 'Kaupapa Māori' award winners may be eligible for the National Tertiary Teaching awards.
- There may be more than one winner in some categories.
- There is a stand-down period of one year for winners

Teaching categories:

Category	What we're looking for	Criteria/evidence required
Excellence in Teaching	An experienced teacher or teaching team that has demonstrated excellence in their teaching for over three years.	<p>Tell us (600 words max) why your nominee should win the Excellence in Teaching Award. Teachers can be nominated by other staff members, but evidence should be sourced from the nominee to strengthen the nomination.</p> <p>Examples of characteristics that demonstrate excellence in teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstration of Te Noho Kotahitanga values• student-centred teaching practice maintained over a significant timeframe• teaching practices characterised by excellence• student engagement and effective learning• proactive professional development• positive influence on the teaching practice and development of others and• sustained excellence or innovation

		<p>Note that for future nomination into the National Ako Teaching Awards, nominees need to fit into ONE of these categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing approaches to, and the outcomes of, work-based learning • Achieving diversity and inclusion for improving outcomes for: Māori learners; Pacific learners; neurodiverse learners; and/or learners with disabilities • Innovation in learning, teaching, and curriculum (including developers, educators, or combinations) • Progressing educational partnerships and collaboration • Initiatives for progressing hauora and wellbeing in education • Progressing seamless ākonga transitions between contexts <p>Include feedback from colleague(s). Note the individual/team must have been teaching for over three years. For additional support with compiling the nomination, please contact your Te Puna Ako liaison.</p>
Excellence in Teaching - Kaupapa Māori	Individual or team award. Excellence in tertiary teaching in a Kaupapa Māori context, for over three years.	<p>Tell us (600 words max) why your nominee should win the Kaupapa Māori Award. Teachers can be nominated by other staff members, but evidence should be sourced from the nominee to strengthen the nomination</p> <p>Examples of characteristics that demonstrate excellence in teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstration of Te Noho Kotahitanga values • student-centred teaching practice maintained over a significant timeframe • teaching practices characterised by excellence • student engagement and effective learning • proactive professional development • positive influence on the teaching practice and development of others • sustained excellence or innovation <p>This needs to be demonstrated in a Kaupapa Māori context. Include feedback from colleague(s). Note the individual/team must have been teaching for over three years.</p> <p>For future nomination into the National Ako Teaching Awards, nominees need to fit into ONE of these categories:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancing approaches to, and the outcomes of, work-based learning • Achieving diversity and inclusion for improving outcomes for: Māori learners; Pacific learners; neurodiverse learners; and/or learners with disabilities • Innovation in learning, teaching, and curriculum (including developers, educators, or combinations) • Progressing educational partnerships and collaboration • Initiatives for progressing hauora and wellbeing in education • Progressing seamless ākonga transitions between context <p>For additional support with compiling the nomination, please contact your Te Puna Ako liaison.</p>
Excellence in Early Career Teaching	For a teacher who has been teaching for up to three years and has demonstrated excellence in their practice.	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Excellence in Early Career Teaching award.</p> <p>Examples of characteristics that demonstrate excellence in early career teaching could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • student-centred teaching practice • demonstration of Te Noho Kotahitanga values • innovation in pedagogy • course/programme design and development • demonstration of Unitec's teaching competencies. <p>Include staff feedback, student evaluations and/or manager feedback where possible.</p>
Excellence in Early Career Research	For an Early Career Researcher who has demonstrated excellence and fits the criteria for Early Career Researcher.	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Excellence in Early Career Research award and how they demonstrate one or more of the following measures of success:</p> <p>Research Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of Te Noho Kotahitanga values • Building and leading research teams in schools, across schools, disciplines or institutions • Growing Māori and Pacific research capability • Identifying and leading responses to externally-funded research opportunities • Leading research partnerships with external stakeholders • Mentoring emerging and early career research staff members' activity

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellence in research dissemination <p>Stakeholder Partnership (Iwi/Industry/Community)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnering with stakeholders on research projects or programmes • Liaising actively with stakeholders and partners around their research needs • Engaging in research activity that addresses stakeholder priorities <p>Impact of Research (actual or potential)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research that contributes to teaching • Enabling policy, corporate or consumer behaviour change/improvement, based on the evidence • Enabling or creating research-based innovation/entrepreneurship, commercialisation, or practice improvement • Engaging in research uptake and impact outside the academy, e.g. design and delivery of new tools, creative works, practices or products <p>Open to all Early Career Researchers (ECR), regardless of what role they hold at Unitec, whether or not they teach and/or whether or not they have a research time allocation. An ECR at Unitec lies between ‘emerging/beginner’ and ‘senior/advanced’. An ECR is within 10 years (prior to the closing date for full applications for ECR funding) of becoming an ‘independent’ researcher, which is defined as one or both of the following, whichever comes first:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A researcher who has been awarded a PhD or a professional doctorate with a significant research component. 2. A researcher who has been the primary author of an independently investigated (i.e. unsupervised, disseminated quality assured research output. This criterion excludes conference presentations and typically also excludes very short written outputs. Time taken for parental leave is not counted as part of the 10-year window (i.e. one year of parental leave would extend the eligibility period to 11 years since achieving criterion 1 or 2). Note that other forms of extended leave may be considered by negotiation with Tūāpapa Rangahau.
Excellence in Research	For an experienced researcher or research team, who has demonstrated excellence in their research for over five years.	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Excellence in Research award and how they demonstrate one or more of the following measures of success:</p> <p>Research Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of Te Noho Kotahitanga values

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and leading research teams in schools, across schools, disciplines or institutions • Growing Māori and Pacific research capability • Identifying and leading responses to externally-funded research opportunities • Leading research partnerships with external stakeholders • Mentoring emerging and early career research staff members' activity • Excellence in research dissemination <p>Stakeholder Partnership (Iwi/Industry/Community)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnering with stakeholders on research projects or programmes • Liaising actively with stakeholders and partners around their research needs • Engaging in research activity that addresses stakeholder priorities <p>Impact of Research (actual or potential)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research that contributes to teaching • Enabling policy, corporate or consumer behaviour change/improvement, based on the evidence • Enabling or creating research-based innovation/entrepreneurship, commercialisation, or practice improvement • Engaging in research uptake and impact outside the academy, e.g. design and delivery of new tools, creative works, practices or products <p>Open to all researchers, regardless of what role they hold at Unitec, whether or not they teach and/or whether or not they have a research time allocation.</p>
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Other categories

Category	What we're looking for	Criteria/supporting information
Excellence in support	<p>This award is for an individual in a support role who has consistently stood out, who does one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supports our staff with systems and processes • supports teachers to deliver education to our students • directly supports students in their journey at Unitec. 	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Excellence in Support award, based on the below criteria:</p> <p>An individual in a support role who has consistently stood out and does one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supports our staff with systems and processes • supports teachers to deliver education to our students • directly supports students in their journey at Unitec <p>The nominee has contributed to our vision and purpose: Vision: Manaakitia te Rito - Sustaining growth and success, fulfilling promise and potential Purpose - Led by Te Noho Kotahitanga we manaaki the success of our students and communities</p>
Supporting Pacific Learners Award	<p>Individual or team award. Excellence in supporting Pacific learners. All staff eligible.</p>	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Supporting Pacific Learners Award.</p> <p>Examples of characteristics that demonstrate support for Pacific Learners' and communities' success could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand enabling factors for Pacific learners that relate to prior learning through their cultures, family context and background, personal values, and life experiences • Ability to form good relationships with Pacific learners, their families/fanau and/or Pacific communities • Working with Pacific stakeholders to improve opportunities for success for Pacific learners <p>How they have demonstrated Te Noho Kotahitanga values</p> <p>Open to all staff</p>
Outstanding contribution by a project team	<p>A team that has implemented a project or initiative that has had a positive impact on</p>	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Outstanding contribution by a project team award, based on the below criteria:</p> <p>A team that has developed and implemented a project or initiative that has had a positive impact on Unitec, our learners and/or our communities. For example:</p>

	Unitec, our learners or our communities. All staff eligible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A technology or infrastructure project • Response to a challenge or situation • A change project <p>Open to all staff</p>
Sustained outstanding contribution to Unitec	An individual who has worked at Unitec for 10 years or more, who has demonstrated excellence over their career. All staff eligible.	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Sustained Outstanding Contribution award, based on the below criteria: For example, the nominee has done one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gone above and beyond in their role, and is always reliable • Committed to Te Noho Kotahitanga • Committed to learner success <p>Open to all staff who have worked for 10 years or over at Unitec</p>
Te Noho Kotahitanga Team Award	A team that has demonstrated excellence and has lived our values throughout the year. All teams are eligible.	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Te Noho Kotahitanga Team Award, based on the below criteria:</p> <p>A team that has demonstrated excellence and has lived our values throughout the year. This team has consistently demonstrated commitment to our values in their mahi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rangatiratanga – Authority and Responsibility • Whakaritenga - Legitimacy • Kaitiakitanga - Guardianship • Mahi Kotahitanga - Cooperation • Ngākau Mahaki - Respect <p>Open to all teams</p>
Unitec Champion Award	An individual in a leadership role who has demonstrated all-round excellence, All leaders eligible.	<p>Tell us (300 words max) why your nominee should win the Unitec Champion Award, based on the below criteria:</p> <p>An individual in a leadership position who has demonstrated all-round excellence, made a significant impact and shown excellent leadership. They have maintained great relationships and supported</p>

others. This person has consistently demonstrated commitment to our values in their mahi:

- Rangatiratanga – Authority and Responsibility
- Whakaritenga - Legitimacy
- Kaitiakitanga - Guardianship
- Mahi Kotahitanga - Cooperation
- Ngākau Mahaki - Respect

The nominee has contributed to our vision and purpose:

Vision: Manaakitia te Rito - Sustaining growth and success, fulfilling promise and potential

Purpose - Led by Te Noho Kotahitanga we manaaki the success of our students and communities.

Open to all staff.