**Teaching Excellence Awards**

**Categories of Award**

The proposer/seconder should indicate at the Nomination Stage, in which category they wish the application to be considered:

**Individual excellence**

In this category, the nominee should demonstrate excellent teaching practice throughout their work. They should provide evidence of designing and adopting innovative and effective approaches to teaching and enhancing the student experience. They will be expected to have made a significant contribution to learning and teaching in their subject area. This should include evidence of leadership in learning and teaching and scholarly activity relating to learning and teaching.

**Early career**

In this category, the nominee will be within the first five years of their career as a University Teacher, Lecturer or Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) (and will have no prior experience as a teacher in other sectors). This category of award may be made in recognition of colleagues who have been highly innovative and have developed exceptional expertise in a relatively short period of time. Judgements in this category will take into account the limitations of time with regard to developing a breadth of achievement;

**Careers distinguished by significant and sustained commitment to excellence**

In this category, the nominee should have demonstrated sustained commitment through teaching and/or support for learning which may be academic and/or pastoral, and which has been of an exceptionally high standard over a significant period of time. Documentary evidence might include a track record of positive student evaluations, confirmation by or testaments from students (current or former), and support from staff (either peers or colleagues who have been inspired by and /or learned from the candidate).’

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

In this category of award, Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) should demonstrate highly innovative approaches to learning and teaching and a commitment to enhancing student learning. They will be expected to have made a significant contribution to learning and teaching within their subject area including demonstrating evidence of leadership within learning and teaching appropriate to the role of a GTA. Judgements in this category will take into account the limitations of time and the varied nature of GTA teaching work with regard to developing a breadth of achievement.

**Team award**

In this category a team of staff, a team of GTAs or a mixed team of staff and GTAs should demonstrate an outstanding contribution to enhancing teaching and student learning. This award recognises collaborative approaches to teaching that have added significant value to the student experience. Applicants for a team award should provide evidence of how the team has worked together effectively and of how individual members of the team have contributed to the overall student experience. Teams will be expected to demonstrate a high level of innovation and achievement that is greater than that which would be expected of an individual applicant.