

## THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES EXCELLENCE IN DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARDS

### Application Criteria and Guidelines

Deadline: 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in February of each year

The CNS Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Awards recognize and honor excellence and achievement in promoting a climate of diversity and inclusion within the college. Up to three awards will be made each year in the following areas: faculty, staff, students/postdocs.

#### Eligibility

- All CNS faculty, staff, postdocs, or students, or groups comprised of CNS faculty, staff, students/postdocs are eligible to be nominated for this award.
- Any person or group having received this award in the past five years is not eligible.
- Nominations can be made by any CNS faculty, staff, students/postdocs.

#### Success Criteria:

- Successful nominees will have demonstrated, through their actions, leadership and/or innovation in increasing, retaining, and supporting the success of individuals who have been historically underrepresented in CNS and/or in removing the barriers that prevent full participation of all members of our community. Such actions may include:
  - Advancing diversity awareness and understanding within the college
  - Promoting policies and practices that strengthen a culture of inclusivity
  - Serving as an advocate for the interests of under-represented populations
  - Leading efforts aimed at improving diversity representation on campus
  - Developing diversity programming
- Such a contribution could be spread over a relatively long period, such as a major portion of a career, could be characterized by contributions to more than one area, or could be a recent new initiative.

#### The Nominating Process:

The following documentation should be assembled into one pdf document (12-point font, single-spaced, one-inch margins). Keep in mind that a multidisciplinary committee of representatives from across CNS, who are not specialists in the nominees' fields will be reviewing and evaluating the materials.

1. **A nomination letter** written by any member of the CNS community (*maximum of two pages*). The letter should:
  - Advocate and outline the case for why and how the nominee(s) have met the award criteria.
  - Indicate the relationship between the nominator and nominee(s)
- **Up to three letters of support from colleagues, peers, and/or trainees.** The letters should:
  - Demonstrate how the nominee(s) meet the criteria for the award.
  - Describe the relationship between the letter writer and nominee(s)

**Deadline:**

Nominating materials for the **CNS Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award** are due no later than **5:00 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in February of each year.**

**Submission:**

- Email the complete pdf document (nomination letter and supporting letters) to Amanda Leigh-Hawkins ([aleigh@cns.umass.edu](mailto:aleigh@cns.umass.edu)).
- Please include: **Nomination: CNS Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award** in the subject heading.