

# W. T. AIKINS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS

## ELIGIBILITY

Any faculty member that has held a faculty appointment with the Temerty Faculty of Medicine for a minimum of 10 years, who have designed educational innovations specifically for use in the MD (medical) Program, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

**Please note** that use of educational innovations in other programs, for example Arts and Science, graduate, or post-graduate medical programs will not be considered for the W. T. Aikins award.

## DEFINITION OF EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS

Educational innovative technologies include the creation of and use of print materials, digital learning aids, physical specimens, models or demonstrations, other teaching aids or any other educational resources.

## CRITERIA

The following criteria will be considered in reviewing each nomination:

- 1) **Effectiveness** - Evidence of widespread use of the educational innovative learning object by the target group of users. Information gleaned from **3 years** of course evaluations is required. Adoption of the educational innovative technology by other learning institutions would be further evidence of its effectiveness.
- 2) **Uniqueness and Originality** in the development, materials, presentation and application of the educational innovation.
- 3) **Creativity and Innovation** in the design of the educational innovation.
- 4) **Appropriateness** of the educational innovation for the teaching context.
- 5) **Inclusive** of new techniques and strategies for impacting equity, diversity, inclusion and access within the classroom or beyond
- 6) **Relevance** to goals of the curriculum, appropriate level, appropriate detail, accuracy
- 7) **Clarity** - comprehensibility and logical arrangement.
- 8) **Elegance** in technical, conceptual and design senses.
- 9) **Research** - evidence of research in the design and use of the educational innovation to align with best practices of medical education.

10) **Dissemination** of the educational innovation to other educational institutions. Presentations at scholarly meetings, peer-reviewed journal publications, or, publication of the educational innovation or learning object in a peer-reviewed learning repository, such as [MedEd Portal](#) would be a significant advantage.

Letters that are the most helpful address the criteria for the award and present evidence supporting the nominee's excellence in those criteria.