

W. T. AIKINS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COURSE / PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

ELIGIBILITY

Any faculty member or group of faculty members in the Faculty of Medicine who have engaged in the development and coordination of undergraduate courses / programs in the undergraduate MD (medical) Program is eligible. (Examples would include a Course Director or Program Director, Theme Lead, a small group teaching a topic, or organizing an elective).

PLEASE NOTE that teaching performance in other programs, for example Arts and Science, graduate, or, post-graduate medical programs will not be considered for the W. T. Aikins award.

CRITERIA

The following criteria will be considered in the review of nominees:

1) Nominee(s):

- a) commitment and enthusiasm
- b) accessibility to students and staff
- c) excellence in teaching
- d) continuous monitoring of course

2) Design:

- a) well defined objectives congruent with the goals of the medical curriculum
- b) courses well organized and integrated with logical progression of subject matter
- c) effective use of teaching sites
- d) consistency in teaching, content and scheduling throughout teaching sites
- e) integrated with other courses and programs
- f) originality and experimentation in course / program design
- g) effective and innovative use of A/V and other learning aids
- h) presentation of subject matter to stimulate critical and analytical thinking

3) Content:

- a) match of subject matter to course / program objectives and to students' level
- b) relevance of subject matter to medical practice
- c) presentation of subject matter to stimulate critical and analytical thinking

4) Teaching Staff:

- a) selection and appropriate assignment of staff
- b) high quality teaching throughout course/program
- c) involvement of staff in course/program design and decision making
- d) Leadership of the course/program director in faculty development; methods of faculty development

e) commitment and enthusiasm of staff

5) Examinations:

- a) examinations matched with subject matter and course/program objectives
- b) examinations designed to encourage students to learn core material and basic principles
- c) examinations focused on critical and analytical thinking
- d) fairness

6) Evaluation:

- a) regular course / program evaluations (compilation)
- b) appropriate changes of course / program based on evaluation, feedback, and reflection

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

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