Brookes Teaching Excellence Innovation Awards

Application process 2017

These awards are intended for colleagues who have already demonstrated their excellence and commitment to teaching and learning at Oxford Brookes University. If you have previous been awarded a Brookes Teaching Fellowship, Excellence Fellowship, Associate Excellence Fellowship or Team Excellence Fellowship, you are eligible to apply for an innovation award. You can also apply if you are a Senior or Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and can demonstrate recent commitment and development of your teaching excellence. For team awards, at least one member of your team needs to be a previous Brookes Teaching Fellow. The aim of the award is to encourage innovative or new approaches to teaching (or learning support) across the university and to further develop your teaching excellence and support you towards a future National Teaching Fellowship application. Innovation Award projects can offer opportunities to undertake educational research and focus on improving the student learning experience. Student involvement in your projects is strongly encouraged.

Please note that applications will be judged on the quality of a proposed teaching (or learning support) innovation project and its contribution to enhancement of the student learning experience at Oxford Brookes University.

Individual or team innovation award

The awards are available to teams or individuals to work on a project. Applications should demonstrate how they meet the following criteria:

1. How well your project articulates and plans to address a particular learning and teaching challenge.
2. The proposed impact on student learning in your context.
3. The effectiveness of your evaluation strategy.
4. How the project can benefit the wider student learning experience at Oxford Brookes including dissemination across the university and externally.

Applications are made by submission of a written proposal addressing the above criteria. Applicants may be asked to attend a selection interview to clarify aspects of the project. Individuals or teams will have access to a budget of £5,000 over 2 years to fund the project. You will also receive support to help develop your excellence towards a possible nomination by the university for a prestigious National Teaching Fellowship (individual) or national Collaborative Award for Teaching Excellence (team).
The Application

A written application, which can contain web links or video links, of up to 4000 words. As part of the application you will need to provide:

1. Background information to your teaching (or learning support) context including a note of when you (or at least one member of your team) were awarded a Brookes Teaching (Excellence) Fellowship or Senior or Principal Fellowship of HEA. This section should also include details of recent developments you have undertaken to enhance your teaching excellence.
2. A written submission outlining the project and addressing the selection criteria.
3. A proposed budget plan detailing how the award money will be spent for each of the two years of the project.
4. A short supporting statement from your Head of Department.

It is expected that the learning and teaching development proposal will articulate with relevant University Strategies, in particular the Strategy for Enhancing the Student Experience. The project should bring together scholarship and practice; contain implementation of change and evaluation components from which recommendations on effective practice can be derived for dissemination.

There is no standard form for the submission but you are expected to include the four items above and to cover all of the aspects below in order to meet the criteria:

- Project timescales, milestones and deliverables.
- The potential contribution to achieving the strategic outcomes of the University in relation to learning and teaching.
- The likely effectiveness and anticipated size of the project’s impact on/benefit to students and/or colleagues, and/or the wider community.
- A strategy for evaluating and disseminating your work, including an identified external publication, in addition to presentations within the University.
- Evidence of previous ability of the individual or team to complete projects successfully.

In order to refine your development proposal before submission, you are strongly encouraged to get formative feedback from colleagues.

The selection procedure

An internal panel including National Teaching Fellows or Brookes Teaching Fellows or Principal Lecturers (Student Experience) and the PVC (Student Experience) considers all applications. The panel may wish to seek further clarification on your application before making a decision. The award may also be made subject to certain changes being made to your proposal.
Support for applicants

If you are interested in applying, seek support from a PL (Student Experience) in your Faculty; or contact OCSLD. You are strongly advised to share a draft of your application with colleagues for formative feedback. Support events for your application will be organised by OCSLD.

Final Note

The Brookes Teaching Excellence Innovation Award scheme is co-ordinated by OCSLD and, if successful, you will be encouraged to work towards Senior or Principal Fellowship of the HEA if you do not already have this recognition.

Your completed application must be submitted by email to Beverley Blackman, bblackman@brookes.ac.uk in the PVC's office before noon on Thursday, 25 May 2017.