

National Teaching Fellowships Scheme (NTFS)

Unfortunately, despite putting forward three UEA applicants in March 2014, none were successful. Professor Simon Lancaster and the ADTP mentored the three applicants. Despite changes to the funding of the Higher Education Academy (HEA) it seems likely that the NTFS will continue in some form into the immediate future. The NTFS will certainly run in 2015. Full details will be provided when the call for nominations opens on **15 October 2014**. Although there may be some adjustments to the scheme the HEA do not anticipate that any changes will directly impact the application procedure or the scheme criteria.

As indicated by the ADTP in his report to LTC at this time last year, UEA is under-represented in the NTFS 'League Table'. Given our excellent teaching performance and NSS scores we should have higher numbers of applicants and winners. We need to put forward a minimum of TWO applicants each year, and preferably THREE. The NTFS needs to be given more support and to be more proactively promoted at University level and within Schools of Study and in other parts of the University where colleagues directly support student learning (e.g. Library, DOS).

Suggested UEA Candidate Selection Process

The ADTP believes that there are staff in Schools and in Services who could develop a strong case for an NTFS application, and would like to encourage Heads of Schools, Heads of Service (e.g. DOS) and Teaching Directors to bring likely candidates to the attention of the relevant Faculty Dean.

1. The ADTP will circulate details of the NTFS to all Faculty Deans in October 2014, once the new round opens.
2. The ADTP would like each Head of School to 'flag' a star performer in December each year who they believe meets the criteria of the NTFS scheme.
3. These should be conveyed to the **Faculty Executive Dean**, who will choose who they believe is the strongest candidate in their Faculty. Deans will undoubtedly wish to consult their Associate Deans for Learning and Teaching in making this judgement, and to consider recent winners of UEA Teaching Excellence Awards.
4. Deans to communicate the name of the chosen candidate to the ADTP by **Friday 9 January 2015**.
5. The ADTP will work with Prof Simon Lancaster (both previous NTFs) will identify the 2 strongest candidates, with a third held in reserve. The names of the two candidates will be reported to the PVC Academic.
6. The ADTP will work with Prof Simon Lancaster to mentor the two candidates, and to provide feedback/guidance to them on their applications.
7. The submission deadline is in March 2015.

Prof Lancaster has agreed to act as NTF Champion within the University and to promote the scheme to academic and learning support colleagues. He is, as the most recent UEA NTF, ideally qualified to do so.

Criteria

Each nomination is assessed by two independent peer reviewers for:

- individual excellence
- raising the profile of excellence
- developing excellence

Heads and Deans will need, therefore, to consider these three criteria carefully when nominating potential candidates for consideration. In the past candidates have tended to be strong in two areas, but weak in a third. Full details of the NTFS are available at:

<https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/professional-recognition/awards/national-teaching-fellowship-scheme-ntfs>