

# FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

## FGCU Excellence in Advising Award

### Advising Excellence Award

*The Excellence in Advising Award is given to recognize and emphasize excellence in the ability to engage in, promote and support professional advising.*

*FGCU recognizes that advising is a teaching opportunity beyond the course selection that may include career exploration, decision making skills, values clarification, critical thinking, utilizing campus resources, taking personal responsibility, and understanding processes and the value of a college education.*

### Eligibility

- This award is for individuals classified as Academic Advisor I, Academic Advisor II, and Academic Advisor III whose primary responsibility is professional academic advising.
- Individuals classified as Academic Advisor I, Academic Advisor II, and Academic Advisor III who report at least 75% of designated effort for academic advising in the Faculty Activity Report or whose job description requires 75% academic advising will be considered to have professional academic advising as their primary responsibility.
- To be eligible, individuals classified as Academic Advisor I, Academic Advisor II, and Academic Advisor III must have been employed by the University for a minimum of one full academic year prior to the end of the deadline for nomination.

### Award

- Each award recipient receives a cash award.
- Each award recipient receives a designated reserved parking space.
- Each recipient receives a medallion on a green ribbon signifying excellence in advising. The Medallion may be worn at commencement and other academic events.
- Each award recipient receives an excellence certificate.
- Award recipient's names are engraved on a general Excellence in Advising Award plaque that is placed in the Provost's office. This plaque includes the names of all prior award recipients.

### Nomination Process

Excellence in Advising Award criteria are announced by the Provost's office at the beginning of the academic year. The Provost's office issues an official call for nominations by November 7th and a final notification by January 21st. Nominations are submitted to the Provost's office by February 7th. Nominations must come from individuals with direct knowledge of the nominee's qualifications in advising. No self-nominations are accepted. Previous advising award winners are not eligible to receive an advising award in the same category for a period of five years.

The one-page nomination letter must include:

- How the nominator knows the nominee (relationship between the nominator and nominee).
- How long the nominator has known the nominee.
- How the nominee meets the award criteria.

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## Documentation

Candidates for the advising award prepare a portfolio. The portfolios are submitted to the Provost's office by March 1st. All portfolio materials must be submitted in a uniform 1-inch notebook that is provided by the Provost's Office. All documentation needs to be single spaced for consistency. Portfolio materials should be labeled and organized as follows:

- Table of Contents
- Letter of nomination (copy provided by the Provost's Office)
- A bulleted list of pertinent activities related to advising (single spaced, 2 pages maximum)
- Reflection of professional growth & development over time in area of advising (single spaced, 5 pages maximum)
- Four letters of support:
  - Two letters must be from students regarding advising style and effectiveness.
  - Two letters must be from colleagues (peers, faculty, administrators) describing perceptions of nominee's skills in advising and/or advising administration.
  - Letters should identify the time period the person writing the letter has known/worked with the nominee.
  - The date written and the signature of the supporter must be included in the letter.

## Selection Committee

The Excellence in Advising Award Selection Committee convenes in January. Once convened by the Provost's Office, the committee will elect a chair from committee membership. The chair of the selection committee does not vote unless there is a tie. A nominee for the Excellence in Advising award is not eligible to serve on the Excellence in Advising Award Selection Committee.

Members of the selection committee include:

- Representative from the Provost's Office, non-voting
- One University wide representative from a Non-Advising office, for example Center for Academic Achievement, Office of Admissions, Office of the Registrar, Testing Center
- One recipient of excellence in advising award
- Representative from Student Government

At the end of each award cycle, the award selection committee should review the nomination, documentation, and award selection process and, if appropriate, present recommendations in writing (with associated recommended revisions to guidelines) to the president of the Faculty Senate, the provost, and the chair of any Faculty Senate ad hoc committee charged with reviewing award processes.

## Award Evaluation Criteria

The rubric for evaluation is on a 4-point scale ranging from 0-3, where 0 is not evident or NA, 1 is partially evident (marginal), 2 is evident (acceptable) and 3 is fully evident (exemplary). Evidence of the following criteria is evaluated:

- Strong interpersonal skills

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- Availability to advisees, faculty, or staff in a variety of settings
- Use and dissemination of appropriate information sources
- Communicate ideas and information to promote student success
- Caring, helpful attitude toward advisees, faculty, and staff
- Proactive monitoring of student progress toward academic and career goals, facilitating strong relationships with advisees
- Comprehensive understanding of institutional regulations, policies, and procedures
- Ability to engage in, promote, and support holistic advising
- Participation and support of advisor development programs
- Perception by colleagues of nominee's skills in advising and/or advising administration

The Selection Committee reserves the right not to give out an Excellence in Advising Award if nominees fail to satisfy minimal eligibility requirements. The Selection Committee has the right to extend the application period if needed.

### **Award Announcements**

All awards are announced at the **Celebration of Excellence ceremony** and are kept confidential until that time.

### **Key Dates (if a date falls on a weekend, the due date will be the subsequent Monday):**

October 1	Provost's office sends award criteria to all faculty and advisors
November 7	Provost's office sends out first official call for nominations to faculty, staff, and students
January 15	Chair of Academic Advising Council notifies Office of Curriculum and Instruction that the Award Selection Committee needs to be convened
January 15	Provost convenes the Advising Excellence Award Selection Committee
January 21	Provost's office sends out final call for nominations
February 7	Deadline for nominations
March 1	Deadline for portfolios
April	Award announced at Celebration of Excellence