

Anonymized Nominations : 434

Nomination Summary

Total Nominations: 17

Reasons why faculty was nominated:

Each nominator could choose from a list of reasons as to why you were nominated.

%	Reason	Total
100%	Effectively communicates knowledge or helps develop specific skills	17
94%	Reaches out to students who are having difficulty learning	16
88%	Creates a challenging but exciting learning experience	15
71%	Uses novel teaching styles, techniques, or approaches	12
94%	Chooses assignments and activities that engage and promote active learning	16
94%	Effectively uses technology and instructional resources	16
29%	Uses novel teaching styles	5

Explanations written about how the faculty stands out as an outstanding teacher:

As a graduate student, I never got the chance to take any of Dr. *****'s classes, however, I did get a unique perspective of how she is a professor as a teaching assistant. I can say without a doubt, Dr. ***** is one of the best professors that I have ever had the pleasure of interacting with in academia. And I mean that. She has a constant happy glow about her and is the most approachable and caring professor. She truly cares for her students and wants them to succeed. She is welcoming and understanding and will always work to help students no matter what, even if it is not related to her class, she will try and help. During the covid-19 pandemic she aimed to still make her courses fun and interactive, and really put thought into how to transform her classes to work in the virtual environment. When coming back to being in person, she made sure that all students felt safe, and truly listened to every student's questions and concerns. Dr. ***** makes WKU a better and more welcoming place, and she beyond question deserves this award.

She has been great with helping me get through class, and helping me focus because of my Autism and ADHD. She was just an amazing teacher overall!

Dr. ***** is always ready to listen. She tries to make a level ground with her students and truly understand where they are coming from.

Dr. ***** strives to make sure every single student has the resources they need to succeed. In class, she uses anonymous polls to gauge students' understanding of the material as well as to determine what she could do better in the future as a professor. Dr. ***** has provided me with a support system I never would have thought I would receive from a professor that has hundreds of students. She makes learning in a large lecture hall personal and ensures that every student has a chance to ask for help and meet with her if needed. I had Dr. ***** as a professor four years ago now, but she has continued to make an impact in my life by giving me the chance to become a TA in her lab, and being a listening ear as I have been navigating my graduate study decisions.

Dr. ***** is always enthusiastic and excited to teach. She never fails to be engaging. You can truly tell she cares about each of her students.

Having the ability to have a hands on lab for ecology with such a passionate teacher has allowed me to comprehend the skills I need for the future

Fa 21

explains information in a in depth and clear way. is supportive to students when they need extra help and guidance. has a great teaching technique.

***** has been an excellent professor for Biology 120. The course itself is difficult, but Dr. ***** makes it manageable and enjoyable, while still challenging her students. She has high expectations for every student, and genuinely wants them to succeed. Even though we are a class of over 120 students, she makes every effort to get to know us personally. For extra credit, she gave us the option to submit an essay about a belief we hold, and the story that formed that belief. For weeks after that, she spent time reading through and responding to each one with immense thought, including insights and how she could relate as well. She is understanding, knowledgable, and kind, and I was incredibly lucky to have her.

Dr. ***** is the absolute ideal standard for a professor. She is always so understanding and will work with you through any issues you have. She gives her students multiple ways to contact her and is always efficient in getting back to you. She addresses every question asked, in multiple ways if needed for her students to understand. She goes out of her way to make her classroom a comfortable learning environment. You couldn't ask for a better Biology professor!! Through COVID-19, she held her class in a large auditorium and continuously made it clear that staying safe and healthy was her first priority. She made her lectures easily accessible for students in quarantine, which made it very easy to stay caught up with the information.

Sp 21

Dr. ***** was a godsend for me. I have not had her as a direct educator. I had her Biology Lab with T.A.'s. My time with her was via email due to an incomplete. I have thought over the past several weeks how I could let her know and everyone else know how wonderful she is. Last semester as I attempted this lab for the second time, my life was still chaos. I am a single mother to a teenage boy. I work at 4 different pharmacies, many days from 630a or 8a to 730p. I also have been attending WKU full time since Fall 2019 so that I can get all my required courses to attend Pharmacy School. Well on top of the craziness with COVID 19, my son broke his right hand, once that healed within two weeks he snapped his left wrist completely in to after flipping a dirt bike 5x. Did I know that reaching my goals would be difficult? Sure I did. I just never thought COVID would take over my life as a Pharmacy Technician as hard

as it has and really I never planned on my son breaking bones. O yes and I must not forget to add that I am not a very compliant patient myself, especially with COVID going on, so my Pacemaker/Defibrillator battery decided it needed to alarm me and I had surgery in November. In 2010 I had it on Thursday and returned to work on Monday. NOT THIS TIME, I was down for 2 weeks. With all my background lets focus on Dr. *****. Her TA, Fall 2020 attached her to an email stating he had asked that I receive an incomplete and be able to finish all my task. She agreed and made contact to resume Spring 2021. She kept in contact with me several times to see where I was, if I needed any help, anything she could do to help me finish this course. I've been known to procrastinate and was down to the first deadline. Decided that Sunday I would knock it all out. I sat down during the week and finished 3 of the task. She notified me the date had been extended. Well here we went again, down the procrastination road. I did actually get it all completed with 2 days to spare. I was not proud of my work. I am better than what my grades reflect, however with all I have going on C's are as good as it gets for now. She communicated with me my grade and how proud she was that I made the attempt and did finish. She encouraged me to continue forward and the best of luck. She very well could have been, here's the due date, have it all in, thanks. But she did not do that. She stayed in contact, she encouraged, she offered me the kindness that I so needed at that time. She is amazing and I wish her the best with her career at WKU! I will never forget her.

Every time I have had any issue with or question about anything at all in the class (content, assignments, etc) I have been able to email Dr. ***** and get a reply within minutes. She is always more than willing to help, and goes the extra mile to make sure we are all prepared for the assessments by even taking time to help teach study strategies and provide study starters. Overall Dr. ***** is super sweet, teaches great and really cares about her students.

Sp 20

I'd like to nominate *****. As a graduate student, she is my lab coordinator and the classroom instructor of many of the students I teach. I've taught under her for four semesters, and it is clear to anyone who works with her that she cares for her students so much. She is also really excited about revising the introductory biology labs (which isn't the most glorious thing to do), and she has put an incredible amount of hard work into to creating an inquiry-based learning approach to entry-level biology. During the pandemic, she was extremely busy converting a new, pilot lab curriculum into an online format, yet she still maintained meetings every week, always found time to answer our questions, and put her students ahead of herself in her teaching. *****'s incredible patience and

perseverance with her students and her courses is obvious when you ask her students, who respect her and enjoy having her as a professor. She pushes students and meets them at their level, no matter what's going on. ***** is not a pushover, but she is gracious and considerate, traits especially important these days. Her desire to see the students succeed is evident and encouraging!! With her lab instructors, she is incredibly patient and kind. I have had a few less than stellar moments, and she has been right there to help me out and see that I learn from my mistakes and grow as a teacher. I am very thankful to have worked under her and learned from her, and highly suggest she receive the Teaching Honors award. Her commitment to the students is intentional, and shows a genuine desire for the betterment of the biology department. She's just really really good at what she does, and cares about her students so much.

as hectic as the spring 2020 semester was she was always ready to offer a helping hand whether that be with understanding content or lending a listening ear. She has gone above and beyond to allow us to learn the basics of biology which is a complicated concept to understand online, she deserves this because out of every professor I have had so far in my freshmen year here at WKU she has by far shown the most passion and that passion motivated me to try harder.

Professor ***** is an incredible teacher. I walked into her class knowing I would struggle because I never liked biology, but I walked out with confidence and an A in her class. She cares so deeply about the success of each student in her class. She presents study tips and strategies and explains complex concepts in a way that is easy to understand by anyone. I loved going to her class because each time she lectured, I could tell she was passionate about what she was talking about, and that in turn made me more interested as a student. Yes, I learned about biology from Professor ***** , but I was also reminded just how important it is to be a caring individual in a crazy world. I will be a teacher in the future, and I believe being in *****'s class has helped me to potentially be a better teacher one day. ***** has deeply touched my mind and my heart.

Although I did not have Dr. ***** teaching our lab in person, the work she put into making the online labs and homework was beyond amazing. You could definitely tell the amount of effort she put into her work. Her TA's were also top notch and I applaud them as well. Dr. ***** was the best at adapting to the challenges of online lab work, and I am extremely thankful for her hard work.

Was very flexible with exams and even split up the exams to one-two chapters a week rather than 4 chapters per exam. She reached out at least three times a week and responded very quickly with any questions my class had.

Dr. ***** always went out of her way to schedule zoom meetings to allow us to ask whatever questions we had about content. She also had us join an app that allowed us to quickly communicate with her regarding any concerns we had. She was always available and extremely helpful, making sure we understood the material to the best of our ability.
