

Call for Nominations

Robert W. Tait Annual Lecture on “Implementing Teaching Excellence at UNBC”

Background: Dr. Robert Tait has played a pivotal role in enhancing the profile of teaching and learning at UNBC. As Chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee, he sought action and not just discussion. This committee, under his leadership, was central to the expansion of teaching and learning activities at UNBC. He created opportunities in-house for practicing our pedagogy. As well, Dean Tait was always inclusive and understood that it was not just the faculty who were central to the students’ learning experience, but also the staff. Perhaps more significantly, Dr. Tait had a vision for teaching excellence that was beyond UNBC. He encouraged faculty to engage in the scholarship of teaching and learning at a provincial and national level, and supported it out of his budget at times. Robert Tait has also mentored many junior faculty members who have since gone on to win UNBC and 3M teaching awards.

The terms of reference for the lecture reflect the work of Robert Tait. They reflect a holistic understanding of teaching and learning and they are inclusive. The terms of reference are about action, not just reflection. The lecture itself aids in the development of a staff, faculty or SLI teaching dossier.

Nomination Process: Provost, Vice-Provost, Deans, Chairs, past Tait recipients, and Directors are encouraged to submit a one-page nomination letter that provides an overview of the nominee’s commitment to educational leadership and action at UNBC. Nominees will then be contact via the Director of the CTLT and invited to submit a brief bio and teaching dossier that reflects a focus on educational leadership. The nominator’s letter and nominee’s teaching dossier will be submitted to the selection committee.

The dossiers are to be no longer than 10 pages double spaced in length. Nominees are encouraged to speak to the terms of reference of the award in the dossier and include evidence of their innovations and may wish to include elements such as a cover letter, teaching curriculum vitae and/or a teaching philosophy. Letters of nomination are not counted in the page length of the dossier.

One-page nomination letters are due by November 1, annually. Dossier submissions by nominated candidates are due December 15, annually. Both nominations and dossiers can be emailed to the Centre for Teaching, Learning, and Technology (CTLT@unbc.ca).

Terms of Reference:

- Annual lecture scheduled through the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology
- Nominees may be part-time or full-time faculty, senior lab instructors, or staff
- Nominations are made by Provost, Deans, Chairs, past Tait Award recipients, Directors, or supervisors of above employees to the Director of the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology.
- Selections made by a committee composed of a NBCGSS rep, NUGSS rep, two past recipients of the UNBC Excellence in Teaching Award from two different Faculties, and chaired by the Director of the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology.
- The award is given for innovations that enhance the learning experience of the student, either inside the classroom or outside of the classroom.

- The innovations must be documented by the nominee and the nominee is then required to share this innovation via the public lecture.