The Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations (CAFA) is a professional organization of faculty associations in Alberta universities. It is a federation of four associations: The Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta, Athabasca University Faculty Association, The Faculty Association of the University of Calgary and The University of Lethbridge Faculty Association. The objectives of the Confederation are to promote the quality of education in the province and to promote the well-being of Alberta universities and their academic staff.

CAFA is inviting nominations for the sixth annual CAFA Distinguished Academic Awards. The 2014 Awards received considerable public attention, and we are hoping to build on this success.

Once again, CAFA is offering two Awards:

**2015 CAFA Distinguished Academic Award**

Recognizing an academic staff member, or group of staff members, who through their research and/or other scholarly, creative or professional activities have made an outstanding contribution to the wider community beyond the university.

**2015 CAFA Distinguished Academic Early Career Award**

Recognizing an academic staff member at an early stage of his or her career, who through his or her research and/or other scholarly, creative or professional activity has made an outstanding contribution to the wider community beyond the university.

Each Award recipient will receive a cheque for $2,000 and an original artwork.

**Eligibility**

Nominees must be current members of one of the academic staff associations within CAFA - the AASUA, AUFA, Calgary and ULFA. For a group nomination, a majority of group members, including the primary researcher or group leader, must be current members of one of the CAFA academic staff associations.

Nominees for the CAFA Distinguished Academic Early Career Award must be no more than eight (8) years beyond the completion of a doctoral degree or equivalent qualification.

**Eligible Contributions**

Any type or form of research and/or other scholarly, creative or professional activity, which makes a contribution to the community beyond the university, is eligible for consideration by the Selection Committee.

In making its decision, the Selection Committee, at its discretion, may also take into account such factors as a nominee's teaching and service record, as well as other aspects of his or her professional life.

**Nominations (returnable to CAFA)**

Nominations for either Award must include the following:

1) A completed Nomination Form:

Link to Nomination Form
2) A Nomination Letter describing specifically how the research and/or other scholarly, creative or professional activity of the nominee(s) have made a contribution to the community beyond the university. Nominations from any source are welcome. [N.B. The work of the Selection Committee is dependent on the quality and completeness of the information it receives in the Nomination Letters.]

3) The current CV of the nominee(s).

4) Two (2) Letters of Reference.

[N.B. Letters of Reference should be from persons qualified to comment on the research and/or other scholarly, creative or professional activity of the nominee(s), and the contribution it has made to the community outside the university.]

Nominations for both CAFA Awards must be received by April 17, 2015.

Selection Process

The Selection Committee consists of the president of CAFA, as Chair, and the presidents of the four CAFA member associations – AASUA, AUFA, Calgary and ULFA, and the - or their designates. (The Executive Director of CAFA, ex-officio, sits as a (non-voting) member of the Committee.)

The Selection Committee may deliberate, consult and arrive at its decisions, as it shall determine, subject to the Terms of Reference of the CAFA Distinguished Academic Awards. The decisions of the Selection Committee are final.

Award recipients will be selected by May 14, 2015.

Recipients

Award recipients must be willing and able to attend the annual CAFA Distinguished Academic Awards dinner and to make a brief presentation on their research and/or other scholarly, creative or professional activity and its contribution to the wider community. Some contact with the media may also be required.

Travel and hotel expenses for Award recipients attending the Awards dinner will be paid by CAFA.

The 2015 CAFA Awards Dinner will take place in Edmonton on Thursday, September 17, 2015

For more information, please visit the CAFA website at http://www.ualberta.ca/cafa/, or contact John Nicholls, Executive Director, Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations, 11043 – 90 Ave, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2E1. Telephone (780) 492-5630; e-mail: john.nicholls@ualberta.ca.