

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES

DIVERSITY AWARD

Purpose

The Diversity Recognition Award, established in 2006 by the Diversity Council of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, recognizes outstanding diversity accomplishments of faculty, staff, and students in the college. Recipients will have demonstrated a commitment to diversity in the college through teaching, research, extension, or international programs.

Criteria

Any faculty, staff, or student (individual, unit/team, or organization) within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences who exemplifies excellence in advancing the college's mission of promoting diversity is eligible. Nominees must be current employees or students enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at the time of nomination.

Recipients will have demonstrated a thorough understanding of, appreciation for, and advocacy of diversity issues. Successful nominees will have taken a leadership role in the college to improve the quality of academic life and service in the college and will have demonstrated excellence in one or more of the following:

- Provide or actively participate in opportunities to raise awareness about diversity and inclusion within the college community.
- Assist in the recruitment and retention of diverse faculty, staff, and students.
- Conduct diversity research and scholarly activities that enhance the college's diversity and inclusion initiatives.
- Demonstrate a commitment to equity and fairness in the treatment of all members of the college and ensure their access to opportunities and resources.
- Speak on behalf of diversity in one's unit or department in order to promote understanding and sensitivity to diversity issues among colleagues.
- Abide by and promote Virginia Tech's Principles of Community.

Nominations

To nominate a student, staff, or faculty member, submit a letter of nomination and two letters of support to Dr. Judith Jones, Diversity Coordinator, 101 Hutcheson Hall, Campus (0402), by March 1 of each year. The letter of nomination and letters of support should address the award criteria and clearly describe the nominee's contributions to the college diversity efforts. The Dean will appoint a nomination review committee composed of the Diversity Coordinator and three members of the Diversity Council. The

review committee will make their recommendations to the Dean who will make the final decision.

Award

The award will include a letter of commendation, a plaque, and a monetary award of \$1000. The award recipient will be recognized at the college's annual faculty and staff awards celebration.