



LEAPS Distinguished Educator Awards 2023-2024

Award Descriptions, Nomination Criteria, and Submission Information

1. LEAPS Distinguished Educator Award for Outstanding Mentor

2. LEAPS Distinguished Educator Award for Outstanding Preceptor

Description: The purpose of the Outstanding Mentor or Preceptor Awards (**2 individual awards**) is to recognize the exceptional teaching, mentoring, and leadership activities of preceptors and mentors.

The Distinguished Educator Award for Outstanding **Preceptor** specifically recognizes one preceptor at UMB who exceeds expectations in precepting students, elevating the standards of teaching and mentorship of our trainees, and providing exceptional service to their profession.

We recognize that all UMB schools do not utilize the term “preceptor,” therefore, the term “preceptor” can apply to any of the following: (1) Clinical faculty, (2) clinical instructors, or (3) any faculty directly involved with experiential and clinical programs that directly instruct, develop practical skills in a professional setting, supervise, and formally assess students during their clinical or community education experience.

The Distinguished Educator Award for Outstanding **Mentor** recognizes one faculty member at UMB for their role in supporting, encouraging, and promoting a positive and inclusive scholarly and teaching environment, and for contributing to the professional and personal development of graduate and professional students. Mentoring involves not just successfully directing projects, theses, and dissertations, but also providing guidance and motivation in the context of students’ interests, passions, and personal circumstances.

Criteria: Candidates for this award should demonstrate a strong commitment to support the intellectual, scholarly, and professional growth of mentees. Evidence of this commitment should be reflected by their sustained involvement in professional mentoring relationship that result in career growth or personal development of his/her mentees. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Demonstrates an interest and enthusiasm for teaching.
2. Stimulates active independent and guided learning with constructive feedback.
3. Is readily accessible for students, and demonstrates professionalism, leadership, and management skills.
4. Engages the student in a positive environment that fosters creativity in the profession.
5. Establishes a bond and trust with the student that fosters open and honest communication during the precepted, supervised, or mentored experience.

Submission and Timeline: Competitive nomination packets will include all components (see below for details). Nominations that are missing one or more components will put the nominee at a disadvantage and are discouraged. Combine all components of the nomination into a single PDF and submit to leaps@umaryland.edu **by March 1, 2024.**

Nomination Process/Eligibility: 1. Any faculty member (at any level) or mentee at UMB may nominate a faculty member for this award. Self-nominations are accepted, although the mentee(s) are highly encouraged to submit nominations for this LEAPS Distinguished Educator Award.

Note: Clinical coordinators, instructors, and other clinical education staff members may also nominate preceptors.

2. There will be an open call for nominations beginning **November 1, 2023** and ending **March 1, 2024.**

Supporting Documentation: Nomination packets must include the following:

- 1) No more than a two (2) page (double-spaced) typed nomination letter for the candidate by the nominee (500-750 words).
- 2) CV for the nominee.
- 3) One (1) letter of support from the candidate's chair, director, or a professional colleague.

3. LEAPS Distinguished Educator Award for Educational Scholarship/Publication Award

Description: The purpose of the Educational Scholarship/Publication Award is to recognize scholarly contributions to education which has led to a publication (book, book chapter, or peer-reviewed journal article) that contributes to the literature and/or practice of graduate and professional education. Articles and published works may be “submitted”, “in-press” or already published works.

Scholarly education can be characterized by: (1) Purposeful planning (clear objectives and advanced preparation), (2) systematic implementation (explicit methods with measurable outcomes and theoretical grounding), (3) effective presentation of results (clear articulation of activities and outcomes), and (4) reflective critique (continuous, stepwise, and critical evaluation aimed at ongoing improvement) as defined by Glassick (CE Glassick, Acad Med. 2000, 75(9), 877-880).

Submission and Timeline: Competitive nomination packets will include all components (see below for details). Nominations that are missing one or more components will put the nominee at a disadvantage and are discouraged. Combine all components of the nomination into a single PDF and submit to leaps@umaryland.edu by **March 1, 2024**.

Criteria: Faculty at any rank and from any discipline are eligible. Candidates for this award should clearly demonstrate a scholarly approach to educational dissemination activities (*e.g.*, scholarship of teaching, mentoring, educational research broadly conceived, development and dissemination of educational materials, educational design). The submission packet should include the published work, during the preceding year 2 years **(2021-2023)** that fulfills the definition of educational scholarship. Work that is under review for publication is eligible. Additionally, the publication may have more than one author and may be an interdisciplinary effort. The award will go to the lead author (the lead author must be employed by UMB or one of its schools, regardless of the number of co-authors).

Nomination Process/Eligibility:

1. Any faculty member (at any level) may nominate a faculty member for this award. Self-nominations are accepted.

2. There will be an open call for nominations beginning **November 1, 2023** and ending **March 1, 2024**.

Supporting Documentation: Nomination packets must include the following:

- 1) No more than a two (2) page (double-spaced) typed nomination letter for the candidate by the nominee (500-750 words).
- 2) CV for the nominee.
- 3) One (1) letter of support from the candidate's chair, director, or a professional colleague.

NEW FOR 2024

4. LEAPS Distinguished Educator Award for Excellence in Teaching

Description: The purpose of the Excellence in Teaching Award is to recognize outstanding teaching done by our faculty and the sustained positive influence of their teaching on students and advisees/mentees. Great teachers go above and beyond to inspire students and instill learning skills that ultimately prepare the student for a lifetime of learning.

Submission and Timeline: Competitive nomination packets will include all components (see below for details). Nominations that are missing one or more components will put the nominee at a disadvantage and are discouraged. Combine all components of the nomination into a single PDF and submit to leaps@umaryland.edu by **March 1, 2024**.

Criteria: Faculty of any rank and from any discipline are eligible. Candidates for this award should display any or all of the following:

- 1) A commitment to student learning and adaptation of instructional methods to students' strengths, needs, and learning styles.
- 2) Fosters a high level of student engagement and intellectual excitement.
- 3) Leads in the promotion and implementation of innovative teaching/learning approaches.
- 4) Demonstrated a sustained impact on students and other educators (especially junior

faculty).

Nomination Process/Eligibility:

1. Any faculty member (at any level), in addition to (1) student, must nominate a faculty member for this award.
2. There will be an open call for nominations beginning **November 1, 2023** and ending **March 1, 2024**.

Supporting Documentation: Nomination packets must include the following:

- a. No more than a two (2) page (double-spaced) typed nomination letter for the candidate by the nominee (500-750 words) and the student.
- b. CV for the nominee.