

Department of Community Health Sciences

Departmental Awards

Terms of Reference

Dated: March 2022

Purpose and Objective: The Department of Community Health Sciences (CHS) developed a 4-year strategic plan from April 2021 – March 2025 to guide the Department’s journey of advancing health with communities within a changing societal and institutional context and as a key contributor to the Cumming School of Medicine’s mission of creating the future of health. From the perspective of the Department of Community Health Sciences our north star is *Healthy Societies*. We will pursue this through our mission of *Advancing health with communities*. We identified 3 focus areas of work; research, education and service, and 1 cross cutting focus area; our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. To recognize the work of our faculty towards achieving our mission, the Department is launching named awards. The intent of these awards is to recognize the continued effort that pursuing our mission and strategic focus areas require, irrespective of the outcome.

Criteria for the Awards:

There will be four awards; one for each focus area of the strategic plan. When the strategic plan of the Department changes or is updated, the terms of these awards may be updated to reflect the new focus areas and priorities of the Department.

1. Pursuing Meaningful Research: This award will recognize a CHS faculty member who is striving to achieve meaning through their research. The definition of “meaning” will be guided by the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) (<https://sfedora.org/read>). This adopts a broad view of meaningful research based on the value and impact of **all** research outputs and considers a broad range of impact measures including qualitative indicators of research impact, such as community-led changes, and influence on methodological approaches, policy and practice.

2. Reimagining Education: This award recognizes a CHS faculty member who has made a significant investment of time and energy for professional development activities to be able to reimagine their role as an educator with a focus in the educational priority areas of EDI and Inclusive education, Indigenous ways of knowing, experiential learning and/or student-centred learning. Professional development includes participation in courses and/or workshops (in person or online) and attendance or presentations at conferences.

3. Creating with Communities: This award recognizes a CHS faculty member who demonstrates a consistent commitment to engage **with** a community or communities. This award considers service broadly to include both internal service (within the University of Calgary) and external service (roles outside the University). We recognize that service of a community is often invisible on a CV. Faculty are encouraged to include “invisible” labour completed in service such as writing letters of reference for students, supporting communities to be able to lead research, conversations and meetings to enable productive decision-making meetings, etc.

4. Taking Action Towards Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: This award recognizes a faculty member who is actively trying to improve EDI through work across any of the three focus areas. There is a recognition

that equity, diversity, and inclusion is represented in many locations, for example, spaces, people, planning, course design, social and environmental interactions, and transparency in practices. Some examples of this breadth include accessibility of a classroom, using closed captioning in a meeting, ensuring fair and equitable hiring practices.

Eligibility: All primary faculty in CHS will be eligible. Those with cross-appointments or adjunct faculty may be considered on a case-by-case basis based on engagement with the Department. The decision to include cross-appointed or adjunct faculty will be made by the selection committee.

Selection Process: There will be no self-nominations. At the time of annual reporting, all primary faculty will be asked to consent to their CV and annual report being reviewed for the purpose of these awards. The selection committee will consist of the Department Head and the current Associate Heads. Best practices in award selection processes as outlined in the University of Calgary Research and Teaching Awards Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Pilot Plan (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/equity-diversity-inclusion/strategies-and-policies/awards-edi-plan>) will be followed.

Award: A prize of \$500 will be given for each award and paid directly to the faculty member.

Term of the Award: Awards will be presented annually. The awards will be continued at the discretion of the Department Head and may be stopped at any time.