# 2025 Excellence in Teaching Award in Honor of Ralph M. Besse – Faculty/Staff Recommendation

**TEMPLATE**

**Important note: Please use this template to draft your responses prior to submitting on the electronic form! There is a 30-minute timer for the online form for faculty/staff nomination. After 30 minutes, the system will automatically submit any data entered.**

1. Explain the nominee's commitment to academic quality: Discuss how the nominee exhibits strong dedication to the profession and a passion for teaching; creates a challenging academic climate characterized by high expectations and hard work; manages a classroom environment that fosters a climate of academic and intellectual integrity; and inspires students to excel through positive reinforcement and real-life applications.
2. Describe the nominee's stimulation of intellectual development: Discuss how the nominee creates an atmosphere of curiosity and intellectual inquiry; demonstrates innovative and creative teaching techniques to enhance teaching and learning; demonstrates student engagement by making content interesting, relevant and applicable; and inspires students to excel through positive reinforcement and personal example.
3. Illustrate the nominee's investment in students within and beyond the classroom: Discuss how the nominee recognizes the dignity and worth of all students; creates an atmosphere of open communication and mutual respect; demonstrates empathy, patience, understanding and consideration of student needs and challenges; and actively promotes personal, professional and intellectual development of students.