RIT | Center for Teaching and Learning

Provost's Innovative Teaching Award

Rubric and Definition

The Provost's Office in conjunction with the Center for Teaching and Learning is committed to working with RIT faculty to explore, develop, pilot, and disseminate innovative modes and models of teaching and learning. To ensure that we allocate university resources to practices that have promise to demonstrate innovation, we have developed a definition of and rubric for evaluation of teaching and learning practices.

For the purposes of this award, innovative teaching can be defined as "any teaching strategy, approach, technique, or tool that is used, or used in a new way, to improve the student educational experience, and can be implemented widely at RIT."

Evaluation Rubric

Criteria	0-1 (Weak)	2-3 (Adequate)	4-5 (Exceptional)
Creativity • Provides evidence that this is a novel approach or application to teaching practices	No evidence provided as to novel approach or application to teaching practices within the discipline.	Some evidence provided as to novel approach or application to teaching practices.	Strong evidence provided as to novel approach or application to teaching practices within the discipline (e.g. letters of support, supporting publications).
Utility • Solves a defined problem or capitalizes on an opportunity	Does not solve a problem or creates more problems than it solves.	Problem or opportunity needs additional clarity.	Problem or opportunity is clear.
Efficacy • Demonstrated impact on student learning and/or the student experience	No evidence provided as to the positive impact on student experience.	Some evidence provided as to the positive impact on student experience.	Strong evidence provided as to the positive impact on student experience (e.g. student evals, testimonials).
Transferable • Realistic in alternative environments • Achievable by others across colleges	Feasible/achievable only in discipline.	Feasible/achievable by somewhat adjacent disciplines.	Portable across many disciplines and colleges at RIT.
Risk • Uses student data appropriately • Provides an accessible experience • Does not violate RIT policy	Unacceptable level of risk.	Moderate level of risk.	Acceptable level of risk.

Supporting Evidence

The following may be used to provide supporting evidence for a nomination:
- Letter of support from department chair or colleagues.
- Student testimonials or evaluations.
- Write-ups in domain-specific journals or other external sites supporting publications.