



NEW MEDIA CENTERS

Creativity
Learning
Innovation



2002

CENTER *of* EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Center of Excellence Award

Welcome to the inaugural Awards Presentation for the NMC Centers of Excellence Program! We hope the Center of Excellence Award will become regarded as one of the most prestigious honors a college can receive for its efforts in applying technology successfully to teaching, learning, and creative expression.

Like the translucent obelisk which symbolizes it, the Center of Excellence Award is unique in many ways. It has been designed purposefully to make it distinct from other award or recognition programs that may be more competitive or that make awards in set categories. The selection process is based on the MacArthur Awards, and like that program, the nominators and others involved in the selection process remain anonymous as a core principle of the program. They are chosen from organizations both within and outside the NMC, and represent a considerable diversity of knowledge.

This year, five NMC institutions are being recognized for their exemplary work. Together they comprise the inaugural class of the Centers of Excellence:

California State University System

Center for Distributed Learning

Recognized for their development of learning object repositories (Joint Award)

University of Calgary

Learning Commons

Recognized for their development of learning object repositories (Joint Award)

Carleton College

Information Technology Services

Recognized for their exemplary faculty support program

City College of New York

Robinson Center for Graphics Arts and Communications Design

Recognized for their exemplary new media degree program

Northeastern University

Educational Technology Center

Recognized for their comprehensive approach to instructional design

In this first year, the selection committee had a tremendous task. NMC is an organization in which excellence is happily very common. Nonetheless, this first class of recipients does indeed represent the best of the NMC and exemplify what brings us all together. Please join me in congratulating these schools on their extraordinary efforts.

Larry Johnson

New Media Centers

June 21, 2002

Criteria for the Center of Excellence Award

Each year the NMC will recognize the work of a small number of truly outstanding member institutions with its highest honor, the Center of Excellence Award, symbolized by a specially designed translucent obelisk. The criteria for the award are as follows:

The NMC Center of Excellence Award is given to NMC member institutions that have had an exceptional record of success in the integration of technology with teaching, learning, or creative expression. This success may be evidenced by:

- the quality of faculty or student work that is in some way connected to the efforts of the institution,
- by the effectiveness of the institution in advancing the integration of technology with teaching, learning, or creative expression, or
- by the impact of this work on students and learning within the institution or by its influence on practitioners across the academy.

The award should be granted without regard to the size of an institution's staff or resources, and in a manner that ensures equal consideration to successful efforts large and small.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q Who are the nominators?

A The nominators are drawn from both academe and industry, and are not required to be NMC members. Each is a leader in his or her field. By prior agreement, the identity of the nominators is held in confidence.

Q How are the selections made?

A Once an institution is nominated, a set of information is put together to help the selection committee make its decisions. This information may be gleaned from the institution's web site, from conversations with knowledgeable persons, through interviews, or by other means. The information collected is reviewed by a selection committee that is charged with identifying from among the nominees the institutions most deserving of this recognition. The award is granted without regard to the size of an institution's staff or resources, and in a manner that ensures equal consideration to successful efforts large and small. By prior agreement, the identity of the members of the selection committee is held in confidence.

Q What are the categories in which honorees are chosen?

A Like other awards upon which this program is modeled, such as the MacArthur Awards, there are no predefined categories for selection.

