

sparkling innovative learning & creativity



Past NMC Center of Excellence Award Recipients

Academic Technologies, California State University, Chico

Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment, The University of Texas at Austin

Information Technology Services, Wesleyan University

Center for Creative Instruction, Medical College of Ohio

Center for Distributed Learning, California State University System

Digital Media Center, Johns Hopkins University

Educational Technology Center, Northeastern University

Educational Technology Services, University of California, Berkeley

Information Technology Services, Carleton College

Learning Commons, University of Calgary

Los Angeles Digital Media Center, Pasadena City College

Maricopa Center for Learning and Instruction, Maricopa Community Colleges

Robinson Center for Graphics Arts and Communications Design, City College of New York

The New Media Center, Kent State University

The New Media Consortium
sparkling innovative learning & creativity

summer conference

The Center of Excellence Award

Welcome to the fourth annual NMC Centers of Excellence Awards. The award, the highest honor bestowed by the NMC, recognizes demonstrated excellence and outstanding achievement in the application of technology to learning or 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.

The selection committee for the Center of Excellence Awards always faces a tremendous task. The NMC is an organization in which excellence is both a goal and a minimum standard, and each member of the NMC does much for which it deserves recognition.

This year, these three extraordinary NMC institutions are being recognized for their long records of achievement:

Case Western Reserve University

Information Technology Services

Recognized for their leadership and world-class approaches to community-wide collaboration.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Education Department

Recognized for their innovation and creativity in expanding the boundaries of informal learning and how we think about art.

The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Digital Media Commons

Recognized for their leadership in the use of collaborative technologies and the exemplary support of students and faculty.

The 2006 class of recipients represents the very best of the community of innovators that is the NMC, and each exemplifies the vision that brings us all together. Individually and together, these three colleges exemplify the highest values of the NMC, and each has compiled a history of accomplishment that has helped set the standards in the application of new media form to teaching, learning, and creative expression.

June 9, 2006

Each year the NMC recognizes 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.