



DVC: Teaching, Learning and  
Community Engagement

**2021 | THE VICE CHANCELLOR  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

[www.smu.ac.za](http://www.smu.ac.za)

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications are invited for the prestigious 2021 VC's Community Engagement Excellence Awards. Schools, Departments, as well as individuals (including lecturers and students), may also **nominate** individuals based on performance for these awards.

Submissions are to be made in the form of an Electronic Portfolio of Evidence in accordance to the guidelines and templates that will be provided to the applicants.

### PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARDS

- To promote, recognise and reward excellence linked to scholarly and research project community engagement;
- To promote and recognize the integration of teaching and learning, research and community engagement to contribute to sustainable social, human and community development.
- To recognise excellence in community engagement activities that assist to achieve the Vision, Mission, Values and strategic objectives of the University in relation to the surrounding community.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- All academic staff members (permanent academic and contract staff members who have been appointed on a fixed-term contract for two years or longer) who have initiated or facilitated a community engagement initiative/project/activity.
- Staff members can apply as individuals or as teams who were involved in projects.
- Team members must be individually named and their level of contribution indicated.
- Teams may be comprised of internal (students, staff) and external stakeholders.
- Professors and Associate Professors are not eligible for the Emerging Community Engagement Scholar Award.

## AWARD CATEGORIES AND MONETARY VALUES

The Community Engagement award categories and their monetary values are listed below:

Category	Position	Value of the award
Distinguished Community Engagement Scholar Award	Best Prize	R 50 000
Emerging Community Engagement Scholar Award	Best Prize	R 30 000
Excellent Community Engagement Team Awards	First Prize	R 20 000
	Second Prize	R 10 000
Excellent Community Engagement Project Awards	First Prize	R 20 000
	Second Prize	R 10 000

### 1. Distinguished Community Engagement Scholar Award

This prestigious award aims to recognise and reward an individual who:

- Excel in integrating teaching and learning, research and scholarship and community engagement;
- Make an outstanding contribution towards advancing the University's community engagement strategic priorities and goals over a sustained period of time (Min 3 years);
- Provide sustained leadership in working with the public and/or community organizations in addressing critical and immediate community concerns;
- Demonstrate innovative ways of working for the well-being of citizens and communities;
- Create positive and lasting impact among the community partners;
- Create a positive impact on scholarship/research, curriculum development and student learning; and
- Contribute to the engagement of a significant number of faculty in public and local community scholarship.

## **2. Emerging Community Engagement Scholar Award (Professors and associate professors cannot apply in this category)**

This award will be made to an individual who is in the early stages of career development, engagement and demonstrated the potential to provide leadership and develop best practices in the field of community engagement. The award aims to recognise and reward an individual who:

- Demonstrated an outstanding promise and understanding in community engagement with the development of a relatively new initiative that has shown the potential for long-term impact, achievement and scholarship.
- Demonstrate an understanding relationship and reciprocity between the University and Community;
- Demonstrate future concrete plans with tangible outcomes reflecting a commitment to continuous community engagement.

## **3. Excellent Community Engagement Team Awards**

These will be awarded to the teams based on the shared team effort towards excellence in community engagement. The award aims to recognise and reward a team that:

- Show evidence of integrating community engagement into teaching and learning and research and scholarship;
- Make an outstanding contribution to advancing the University's community engagement strategic priorities and goals over a sustained period of time;
- Create impact among the community partners; and
- Provide examples of best practices in the community engagement activities.

## **4. Excellent Community Engagement Project Awards**

These will be awarded to individuals based on a specific single well-defined project that exemplifies excellence in community engagement during 2020. The awards aim to recognize and reward individuals who:

- Show evidence of integrating community engagement into teaching and learning and research and scholarship within the scope of the defined project;

- Maximise the involvement and participation of students within the scope of the defined project; and
- Make an outstanding contribution to advancing the University's community engagement strategic priorities and goals within the scale and scope of a specific defined project; and
- Provide examples of best practices within the scope of project-specific community engagement activities.

#### **How to apply:**

1. Complete the attached *Application Form*.
2. The relevant School Dean must sign the application form.
3. Send the following to [community.engagement@smu.ac.za](mailto:community.engagement@smu.ac.za) on or before **2 August 2021**:
  - Completed application form
  - A letter of commendation/reference from community partner(s)
  - Short CV (2 pages) (In case of a team application, CV's of all team members is required)
  - Copy of your ID
4. You have to attend workshops on the development of your community engagement portfolio. You will receive important information regarding the structure and content of your portfolio during the workshop.
5. Submit your community engagement portfolio (A separate portfolio is needed for each category of awards) in which evidence of how you meet the criteria for the award is provided, together with a **detailed** CV before or on the due date of **10 September 2021** to, [community.engagement@smu.ac.za](mailto:community.engagement@smu.ac.za)

#### **How to nominate a candidate:**

1. Complete the attached *Nomination Form* – Section A.
2. The relevant School Dean must sign the nomination form.
3. Request the nominee to complete the form “Nominations – Section B”.

4. Send the following to [community.engagement@smu.ac.za](mailto:community.engagement@smu.ac.za) on or before **2 August 2021**:
  - Completed nomination form
  - Short CV (2 pages) of the nominee
  - Copy of the nominee's ID
6. You have to attend workshops on the development of your Engagement portfolio. You will receive important information regarding the structure and content of your portfolio during the workshop.
7. Submit your community engagement portfolio (A separate portfolio is needed for each category of awards) in which evidence of how you meet the criteria for the award is provided, together with a **detailed** CV before or on the due date of **10 September 2021** to, [community.engagement@smu.ac.za](mailto:community.engagement@smu.ac.za)

### **Consideration of applications for all four awards**

The Community Engagement Excellence Award Committee will:

- Visit the community engagement site
- Assess the submitted portfolio
- Interview the applicants/nominees

***No incomplete applications will be considered.***

### **Closing dates**

- Submission of Application & Nomination forms, short CV and ID document:  
**2 August 2021**
- Submission of community engagement Portfolios and detailed CV's:  
**10 September 2021**

E-mail address for submission of the above mentioned: [community.engagement@smu.ac.za](mailto:community.engagement@smu.ac.za)

Please contact Mr Madan Poka if you require more information: [madan.poka@smu.ac.za](mailto:madan.poka@smu.ac.za)

**www.smu.ac.za**

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**KNOWLEDGE FOR QUALITY HEALTH SERVICES**