

## ASB Meritorious Teaching Award

### Deadline for Nominations: February 10, 2021

The Association of Southeastern Biologists Meritorious Teaching Award is one of the highest honors for excellence in teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate level in biology in the U.S. Southeast. Since 1953, ASB has recognized one of its members for outstanding teaching at the ASB Annual Banquet, the closing event of each spring meeting. Carolina Biological Supply Company generously sponsors this \$1500 award.

The Meritorious Teaching Award Committee seeks nominations from the ASB membership and selects the winner. We urge the membership to consider qualified candidates at their institutions or at other ASB-associated institutions for nomination and to assume the responsibility for coordinating and submitting materials for candidates' nominations. Individuals may not nominate themselves and the nomination is typically done without the candidate's knowledge.

### Criteria for the Meritorious Teaching Award

1. The candidate has been an ASB member for at least 10 years.
2. The candidate has taught biology for at least 10 years in any college or university represented in the Association. There is no restriction on the size of the institution, nor must the institution have a graduate program.

### Documentation for the Meritorious Teaching Award

The nominator may be a current or former student, or a colleague. The nominator should assemble a portfolio which includes:

1. A letter nominating the candidate with the nominator's personal support of the nomination.
2. Several additional letters supporting the nomination from colleagues, administrators, current and former students. The number of letters is not a priority; however, the documentation needs to be abundant and diverse. In other words, the evidence you provide should convincingly support your nominee.
3. Current *curriculum vitae*.

The purpose of documentation is to show the educational influence this candidate has made by virtue of his or her role as a biology professor. Letters should discuss activities of the candidate such as advising, mentoring, involving students in research, using innovative teaching methods, curriculum and/or course development, participation in study/travel/research programs, sponsoring science related groups such as **Beta Beta Beta**, innovative service to their institution, ASB, or the community, etc. Documentation by students or former students might include how the candidate influenced their development and contributed to their own achievements.

The nominator should send assembled materials in one pdf file to Howard Neufeld, Chair of the ASB Meritorious Teaching Award Committee, at [neufeldhs@appstate.edu](mailto:neufeldhs@appstate.edu). In the electronic mailing, the nominator needs to send a cover letter noting:

1. the number and type of items in the attached portfolio,
2. the name and contact information of the candidate, and
3. the nominator's contact information.

The Chair of the Committee will acknowledge receipt of the materials.

**In addition to the electronic submission**, the committee requires a signed hard copy of the letter of nomination and all supporting letters. The assembled hard copies should be sent to:

**Dr. Howard S. Neufeld**  
**Department of Biology**  
**572 Rivers St.**  
**Appalachian State University**  
**Boone, NC 28608**

The hard copies will be a part of a file of materials presented to the winning candidate. These letters are usually the most meaningful part of the award to the winning candidate.

**The deadline for submission of nominating materials is January 1, 2021.** The nominator is also responsible for making sure the candidate attends the ASB banquet, or is present virtually to accept the award.

If you have any questions, please contact the Chair (Howie Neufeld: [neufeldhs@appstate.edu](mailto:neufeldhs@appstate.edu)) or other members of the committee: Lytton Musselman, [lmusselm@odu.edu](mailto:lmusselm@odu.edu)) and Jennifer Rhode-Ward ([jrward@unca.edu](mailto:jrward@unca.edu)).

Files received for any candidate will remain active for at least two additional years and may be updated for reconsideration. The Meritorious Teaching Awards for 2013-2014 and 2016-2017 were not given due to a lack of nominations-, so Please take the initiative to nominate qualified candidates for this prestigious award. It really means a great deal to those who receive the award.

Howie Neufeld, Chair  
ASB Meritorious Teaching Award Committee