WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
YOUNG FACULTY RISK-TAKER AWARD

To support Wichita State University’s strategic plan, in 2017, the Office of Academic Affairs established an award to acknowledge and reward experiments outside the norm in teaching, research, and service. A grant of $2,000 recognizes the importance of positive risk-taking as a unique value at Wichita State University. You are invited to nominate colleagues or yourself on the attached form.

Criteria for Eligibility:

1. Faculty on full-time, probationary/tenure eligible between their first and sixth year of full-time service at Wichita State University are eligible for consideration.

2. Faculty should demonstrate that they have taken an individual risk (or risks), that eventually led to success and learning. Indicators of risk-taking include: developing unique applied learning or research experiences for students; pioneering interdisciplinary curricula with others outside of the nominee’s college; capitalizing on relevant trends that increase quality educational opportunities in a distinctive way; accelerating the discovery, creation, or transfer of new knowledge via inventions, innovations, or technologies that are market-driven; empowering students to create a campus culture and experience that meets their changing needs; and enhancing learning via the creation of a campus that reflects—in staff, faculty, and students—the evolving diversity of society. (For background and ideas, see WSU Strategic Plan.)

3. Faculty should present supporting documentation of experimentation, risk-taking, and learning activities, as well as letters of support from those affected by the success of the activities.

Selection Process:

1. Nomination form accompanied by a curriculum vitae and a letter of support from the department chairperson and two letters of support from those affected by the success of the risk-taking (applicants are encouraged to provide at least one letter from outside the nominee’s college, including outside WSU if appropriate).

2. College/School Deans will review nominations. Those nominations that are selected should be ranked and forwarded to the Provost and Senior Vice President by the second Monday in January. A college advisory panel may be used in this selection and ranking. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

3. The Faculty Support Committee will review nominations and recommend one candidate to the Provost and Senior Vice President.

4. The award will be announced in the spring.
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NOMINATION FORM

1. Name ____________________________ Department ________________________

2. Years of Service at WSU ________

3. Summary of nominee’s experimentation, risk-taking, and learning (you may attach a letter of nomination):

The following attachments are required of the nominee (total length of support materials should not exceed 15 pages, excluding curriculum vitae):

- Delineation of nominee’s role in experimentation and risk-taking and the resultant learning
- Evidence of impact of positive risk-taking
- A letter of support from the department chairperson and two letters of support from those affected by the success of the risk-taking (applicants are encouraged to provide at least one letter from outside the nominee’s college, including outside WSU if appropriate)
- Complete curriculum vitae (attach to nomination packet)

Nominated by __________________________

Signed ___________________________ Date ______________________

This form, accompanied by all the above attachments should be submitted to the College/School Dean.