

John T. Szarlan Memorial Student Mentor Award

Guidelines

The First Year Experience Mentor Award was established in 1999 to honor those students who mentor within our University Learning Skills and Faculty/Student Seminar courses. First Year Experience (FYE) classes are designed to support and challenge first year students as they transition to the University of Connecticut. This award provides the Office of First Year Programs and Learning Communities with a unique opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the undergraduate mentors who work with first year students.

In 2007, the Mentor Award was established as a memorial to John T. Szarlan. As a counselor at UConn for thirteen years, Mr. Szarlan was focused on supporting students' transition to the University. He devoted his time to guiding students and teaching them techniques to effectively study, manage time, and handle the pressures of college. *The recipient of the First Year Experience Mentor Award will each receive \$500.00.*

Criteria

The criteria used to determine the recipient of the First Year Experience Mentor Award are as follows:

- Serves as a positive role model and consistent leader for first year students in and out of the classroom
- Exhibits an ability to relate to all students
- Demonstrates a commitment to mentoring that goes beyond the average undergraduate student
- Supplies first year students with knowledge and support that helps them academically and encourage their involvement at the University
- Provides consistent support for the FYE instructor including, but not limited to, regular meetings, HuskyCT support, curriculum development, and facilitation of classroom discussions.

Nomination Procedures

Nominations can be completed online at: http://fye.uconn.edu/annual_awards.htm

FYE Mentors can be nominated by the instructor or students who he/she assisted in a First Year Experience class. Once the Office of First Year Programs and Learning Communities receives a nomination, the nominee will be contacted and asked to provide the following:

1. A two to three page paper (double spaced, 12 pt font) that explains how the nominee encompassed the guidelines for the award during their mentor experience.
2. A résumé.
3. Up to two additional letters of support (one must be from the INTD instructor if the instructor did **not** nominate the student)

Award Ceremony

The recipient of the First Year Experience Instructor & Mentor Awards will be awarded at the Instructional Excellence Recognition Dinner each Spring.