



ONE FOCUS

Faculty Service-Learning

Ed Zlotkowski Faculty Service-Learning Award



ETTLING CENTER FOR CIVIC LEADERSHIP & SUSTAINABILITY

Edward Zlotkowski is a distinguished scholar and author in the realm of engaged scholarship and service-learning, earning national recognition for his substantial contributions to the field. His 21-volume Series on Service-Learning in the Disciplines serves as a foundational resource for educators aiming to integrate service-oriented pedagogy within various academic disciplines. Dr. Zlotkowski's influence began at the University of the Incarnate Word (UIW) in the late 1990s, where he played a pivotal role in establishing a robust framework for faculty involvement in service-learning. Faculty members at UIW recognized that service had been intrinsic to student learning since the institution's inception, particularly during the era of the Incarnate Word Sisters, who initially provided nursing education. This realization underscored the necessity for more formalized structures to facilitate service-learning initiatives.

The historical context of engaged scholarship and community service at UIW is enriched by numerous examples detailed in a comprehensive overview of the institution's commitment to these principles. Additionally, recent narratives and impactful stories are featured in the annual Service Learning and Engaged Scholarship Showcase booklets and postings, which have been a staple of UIW since their inception in 2017.

In 1996, Ernest Boyer articulated the concept of "The Scholarship of Engagement" in the Journal of Public Service and Outreach, emphasizing the imperative for academia to engage actively in addressing society's most pressing social, civic, economic, and moral challenges. He asserted that institutions must reaffirm their commitment to what he identified as the scholarship of engagement. This call to action resonates deeply within the ethos of UIW's educational mission.

To further incentivize service and scholarship in this area, the Edward Zlotkowski Faculty Award for Service-Learning was established in 2002. This recognition highlights faculty who exemplify innovative approaches to engaged scholarship that meaningfully integrate service into curricular frameworks and promote the institutionalization of service-learning across disciplines, schools, and the university as a whole. The advent of the Ettlign Center for Civic Engagement in 2013 provided additional support for faculty endeavors, fostering an environment where service-learning can flourish alongside academic inquiry.

For a detailed overview of available resources, including the Service and Service-Learning Guidelines and Faculty Resources for Assistance and Scholarship, please visit the Faculty Resources page on the Ettlign Center's website. Faculty members are encouraged to nominate themselves or colleagues for the Edward Zlotkowski Faculty Award, with nominations requiring an approximately 500-word description outlining the nominee's contributions to engaged scholarship through innovative curricular integration of service and efforts to establish service-learning at UIW.



Commitment to Our Community through Service-Learning

The Edward Zlotkowski Faculty Award for Service-Learning annually recognizes a faculty member for innovations in engaged scholarship that integrate service into the curriculum and for efforts to institutionalize service-learning in his/her discipline, school, college, and the university.

Previous Award Recipients

2025	Dr. Stephanie Grote-Garcia, Education
2024	Dr. Patrick Muehlberger, Osteopathic Medicine
2023	Dr. Jeannete Wong-Powell, Optometry
2022	Dr. Heather Barton-Weston, Community Health
2021	Dr. David Armstrong, English
2020	Dr. Lopita Nath, History
2019	Dr. Yvonne Davila, Nursing
2018	Dr. Tracie Edmonds, Accounting
2017	Dr. Russell Coates, Optometry
2005	Dr. Theresa Tiggeman, Accounting
2004	Professor Margaret Mitchell, Theatre Arts
2003	Dr. Sara Kolb, Nursing

**Deadline for
Nominations
for the 2025-2026
academic year is,
Friday, March 6, 2026 by
12noon.**

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Should you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Dr. Ricardo Gonzalez, Director-Etting Center for Civic Leadership & Sustainability (210) 832-3208 or rigonza4@uiwtx.edu.



