Annual Student Success Awards

Nazareth College's focus on building, fostering and advancing a culture of student success is one of the facets that sets us apart from other institutions. Our students are supported and encouraged to explore who they are as a student, a learner, an emerging professional and a member of a global community. The Student Success Awards are our way of recognizing and promoting the amazing work done in support of student success across campus.

Award Categories
- Staff Innovation Award
- Student Support Award
- Mentor Award

Category: Staff Innovation Award

A shared commitment and an improvement-oriented ethos are hallmarks of colleges and universities that excel in promoting student success. By improving the quality, service level, or efficiency of a program, service or process, all staff have an opportunity to directly or indirectly impact the student experience through creative innovations. Often, such innovations are recognized through the annual performance review and goal setting process. This award seeks to broaden the recognition of worthy innovations.

This award goes to individuals, teams, or departments, whose innovation meets one or more of the following criteria:

- *Personal Meaning* – The innovation helps students develop a sense of purpose in college and perceive the Nazareth experience (both curricular and co-curricular) as being personally and professionally relevant to this purpose.
- *Personal Reflection* - The innovation helps students think reflectively about what they are learning and connect it to what they already know or have previously experienced so as to be better prepared for future personal and professional success
- *Self-awareness* - The innovation helps students develop self-awareness by becoming mindful of their learning styles, learning habits, and thinking patterns.
- *Informed Decision Making* - The innovation helps students seek relevant information and take responsibility for themselves and their decisions.
- *Active Involvement* - The innovation helps students become actively engaged in the learning process (both inside and outside the classroom), exploration of their major and career path, and in the use of campus resources.
- *Personal Validation* - The innovation helps students feel personally validated and that they matter to Nazareth.
- *Self-efficacy* - The innovation helps students believe that their efforts matter and that they can influence or control the prospects for their success.
- *Social Integration* - The innovation helps students become open to learning from those who have different backgrounds and perspectives, and improves their ability to form meaningful relationships with members of local and global communities.

Category: Student Support Award

One of the most effective ways to promote a student's success is through nurturing their connection to campus and making them feel like a supported member of the community. Faculty and staff have a unique opportunity to facilitate these connections. Individuals on campus who go out of their way to help students overcome obstacles and manage challenges make a significant difference in students' lives. This award recognizes faculty and staff who have made such positive contributions through direct connection and support.

Successful candidates should meet one or more of the following student support criteria:
- *Informed Decision Making* - Leading students to and helping them understand support services available and necessary for their individual/group success.
- A*ctive Involvement* - Encouraging students to advocate for themselves and utilize available resources.
- *Self-Efficacy* - Assisting students in validating their personal effort and encouraging them through positive actions.
- *Personal Validation* - Encouraging a supportive and collaborative relationship between students, faculty, and staff.
- *Social Integration* – Providing opportunities and encouraging students to actively engage in the campus and local communities.

Category: Mentor Award

The goal of a mentor is to advance the educational and personal growth of a student. A mentor helps students optimize their educational experience, introduces students into the disciplinary culture, and helps students realize their personal and professional goals. This support may extend beyond the classroom and graduation. This award recognizes faculty, staff, and alumni who have presented a student(s) with opportunities or guidance that led to significant achievement.

Successful candidates should meet one or more of the following student support criteria:
- *Personal Validation:* Makes an effort to know, accept, and respect the goals and interests of students and encourages them to develop individual talents and strengths through support and guidance.
- *Active Involvement*: Sponsors students and their work both on and off campus, including facilitating their attendance and participation in scholarly and creative activities.
- *Personal Meaning*: Helps students to articulate and develop career goals and connect them with the resources necessary to take full advantage of academic and professional opportunities including network development.
- *Student Advancement*: Helps students acquire the skills and resources necessary to succeed as professionals in their fields, including, but not limited to, career opportunities

that might be most appropriate to apply for, how to properly apply for career opportunities, and proper behavior during interviews.

- *Informed Decision Making*: Offers valuable information, insight, and counsel that helps advance and develop students' paths to success, both academically and professionally.
- *Self-Awareness*: Generously shares time, expertise, and feedback regarding students' work and progress, self-assessment, and long-range career goals as well as immediate needs and responsibilities.

Awards Selection Process

Selection Committee

Award recipients will be selected by the Retention and Student Success Advisory Group, which is made up of students, faculty and staff. The selection committee will review the merits of each nomination based on the criteria outlined in the award description.

Nomination Process
- Nominations are submitted based on award criteria using the online nomination form.
- Students, faculty, and staff may nominate. Self-nominations are permitted.
- Nominees are notified of their nomination, asked to confirm their interest in being considered, and to review the nomination for accuracy and completeness.

Timeline
- Nominations accepted Sept 19 - Sept 30
- Nominees notified and given opportunity to review nomination and add any pertinent details Oct 3 - Nov 4
- Selection Committee reviews finalized nominations and identifies winners Nov 7 - Nov 30
- Award ceremony held Nov 30