2014 Excellence Award Categories

CITIZENSHIP
Making a Difference in Our Community

The Excellence Award for Citizenship will be presented to an individual or team that has enhanced the quality of life and made a substantial difference for employees, Brown University, or the greater community through a conscious commitment to public service. An individual or team may have initiated positive change in public service initiatives, creatively encouraged community participation, or heightened awareness.

An individual or team may have:

- Created access to Brown’s unique programs and services through open houses, demonstrations, lecture series, etc.
- Used research and resources to create a program to improve the lives of individuals who live and work in the community in which the University operates.
- Initiated and/or successfully managed a program that brought needed resources to the community Brown inhabits or the world at large.
- Gone above and beyond their role within the University to improve the conditions in which faculty, staff, and students work, learn, and live.

DIVERSITY
Cultivating the Value of Diversity in Our Community

The Excellence Award for Diversity will be presented to an individual or team that has helped foster a more supportive and inclusive environment for employees to work, for faculty to teach, and for students to learn. Initiatives or achievements may focus on any aspect of work life, with a particular emphasis on embracing differences and fostering a work/life balance and collaboration within a single department, across the University, and beyond.

EFFICIENCY
Using Resources Effectively and Efficiently

The Excellence Award for Efficiency will be presented to an individual or team that has improved fiscal or operational management in a department or in the Brown community, without compromising necessary services or operations. Initiatives or achievements may have significantly improved a work process or system, increased the efficiency and productivity of an operation or department, or increased revenues or resources. The accomplishments may have also reduced costs, conserved resources, or eliminated redundancies or errors.

An individual or team may have:

- Identified, created, and implemented innovative solutions to streamline a business process or eliminate unnecessary work, making it easier, more efficient, and less costly.
- Identified, improved, and streamlined a University practice, policy, or program that resulted in cost savings or financial gain for the department and/or the University.
- Acquired duties, assignments, and projects, in addition to regularly assigned work, which allowed the department to accomplish desired outcomes without expanding resources.
Leveraged talents from within the department to save money typically spent on contracted professional services and external vendors, saving valuable resources for Brown.

**INNOVATION**

*Creating Innovative Solutions*

The Excellence Award for Innovation will be presented to an individual or team that has developed and/or implemented an innovative program, service, policy, or process that has had a resoundingly positive impact on a specific department, Brown University, or the greater community. These innovators may have envisioned and implemented novel ideas and new methods that effected powerful change.

An individual or team may have:
- Introduced a successful new method that resulted in original, relevant, and valued new products, processes, or services.
- Transformed ideas into new or improved products, processes, or services that contributed to the advancement, competitive advantage, or differentiation of the University.
- Designed and implemented a system or work product that enhanced a core program or service of the University.
- Conceptualized and applied new solutions in research or technology that supported the learning enterprise and had University-wide impact.

**MANAGING FOR EXCELLENCE**

*Building Relationships and Inspiring Others to Higher Levels of Performance*

The Managing for Excellence Award will be presented to an individual or team that has demonstrated excellence in managing people with a commitment to empowering, educating, and supporting staff. These managers have served as a role model by inspiring confidence, respect, and professional development in their department. At the foundation of this award is the ability to recognize, reward, and foster greater individual contributions and/or promote greater team cooperation to achieve higher levels of performance. *This award is not limited to individuals who directly supervise others.*

An individual or team may have:
- Seized the opportunity to evaluate the impact of technology and streamline existing processes to effect positive change.
- Led and managed change within a department by communicating consistently with team members and keeping them apprised of restructuring plans within the department or the University resulting in a higher level of employee engagement and retention.
- Inspired staff to work creatively and collaboratively to produce effective results in achieving individual, departmental, and University goals through goal setting, communication, leading by example, and coaching.
- Engaged team members in achieving goals by setting clear expectations and managing those expectations effectively so staff feel valued and work is performed to standard.
- Created or implemented processes to acclimate, mentor, and support new staff to ensure a seamless transition both in the department and at the University, resulting in greater productivity.
- Encouraged and supported departmental staff to further their education through stretch assignments,
professional development opportunities, or the Employee Education Program.

- Created a departmental culture where opportunities for reward and recognition become both common sense and common practice.

- Seized the opportunity when a vacancy occurred to evaluate work processes, job functions, and staff capabilities to realign responsibilities to accomplish the department’s work with a more effective use of human resources (process may have leveraged the use of technology, eliminated a vacant position, or resulted in the opportunity to promote a deserving staff member).

**RISING STAR**

*Achieving a Seamless Transition and Making an Immediate Impact*

The Excellence Award for Rising Star Award will be presented to an individual or team that has worked at Brown less than two years and has made an immediate impact on their department and the University. This award recognizes the energy, enthusiasm, knowledge, and innovative ideas a new employee may bring to the workplace. An individual or team may have achieved any one of the accomplishments described in any of the categories.

**SERVICE**

*Understanding Needs - Delivering Quality Service*

The Excellence Award for Service will be presented to an individual or team that has a greater appreciation for customer’s needs and how best to respond to them by approaching work through the eyes of the customer. This award recognizes extraordinary service to students, faculty, staff, alumni, or parents which resulted in a positive outcome for the University.

An individual or team may have:

- Consistently exceeded expectations through listening, translating needs into solutions, and delivering quality service.

- Developed or enhanced internal or external communications, cooperation, and/or collaboration with members of the Brown University community.

- Fostered an environment that is welcoming, resulting in service delivered that exceeds expectations and customers feeling valued.

- Gone above and beyond to help a student, parent, faculty, staff, or other constituent in a manner that left a lasting impression.