

The logo for OCUFA, consisting of the letters 'OCUFA' in a large, white, sans-serif font. The background of the top right corner is a dark blue gradient with abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in shades of green, teal, and white.

Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des associations des professeurs des universités de l'Ontario

2021-2022 OCUFA Teaching Award

Citation for Dr. Nicole Campbell



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Read by

Isobel McDonald, OCUFA Teaching and Academic Librarianship Awards
Committee Member

The OCUFA Teaching Excellence Award Committee is pleased to offer a 2022 award to Dr. Nicole Campbell. It is our honour to recognize Dr. Campbell's incomparable contribution to interdisciplinary science education!

Dr. Campbell is known for being a uniquely supportive professor who engages her students with a “pedagogy of care.” In response to the post-secondary mental health crisis, Dr. Campbell extends true warmth and attention to her students. She is attentive to the intersections of her students' identities, and consistently has open conversations to discuss social locations with respect to education. She also speaks openly about mental health and reaches out to students who might be struggling. This dedication is unprecedented for many students. Dr. Campbell writes approximately 100 reference letters a year—a testament to her ability to connect with and show up for students.

Dr. Campbell has been crucial to the development of the Master's and Undergraduate programs in Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences at Western. Throughout these programs, Dr. Campbell assigns “escape boxes” to foster bonding and teamwork among students, simulates Research Ethics Boards and a tri-council grant panel, and allows for grace periods with assessment deadlines. With these innovative methods, Dr. Campbell attends to the many ways that students learn and promotes students' holistic development.

Dr. Campbell is also a prolific and published scholar in science education. Her primary focus is investigating how to explicitly embed skills into a curriculum, including communication, critical thinking, and social accountability. She has created an open access website titled “Uncovering the Hidden Curriculum,” which hosts modules on 54 skills and topics for educators to embed into their curriculum. Dr. Campbell developed this resource in



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consultation with students, and with an Equity, Diversity, Inclusion-Decolonization lens, thus demonstrating her commitment to a reflective practice.

The testimonials from her students and colleagues indicate Dr. Campbell's uncompromising passion for educating. Her students are grateful for her dedicated support and investment in student learning, with some noting that "she showed [them] the true value of learning," and that she "has displayed authentic compassion for student personal growth and academic success, something many educators lack." Similarly, her colleagues hold her in high esteem, one noting that "Professor Campbell is a critically reflective and impactful instructor who excels at cultivating an inclusive learning space for her students." Dr. Campbell acknowledges, encourages, and uplifts her students—it is our hope that in offering this award, we can give her the recognition she undoubtedly deserves.



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Every year since 1973, the OCUFA Teaching and Academic Librarianship awards have honoured the exceptional achievements made by Ontario university teachers and academic librarians.

At OCUFA, we believe that the quality of education at our universities depends on the professors and academic librarians whose teaching and work touches the life of every student who embarks on a journey of higher learning.

Professors and academic librarians play a vital role in our universities, preparing students for the challenges of tomorrow, while pursuing the new ideas and knowledge that enrich all of our lives and chart a path to a brighter future.

