Background –

A. Whereas a sum of money was bequeathed (‘bequest’) to the University of Adelaide by a descendant of Stephen Cole the Elder, pioneer South Australian colonist. In 1991, the University Council determined that the bequest was an appropriate endowment for prizes to members of the academic staff who have made distinguished contributions to scholarship or the creative arts.

B. The Stephen Cole the Elder Awards were established and first presented in 1991, and are the University of Adelaide's premier teaching awards.

C. The University accepted the bequest and the awards were established upon the trusts specified by the University Council and the bequest therefore became the capital subject to those trusts (‘capital sum’).

Name of the fund

1. The capital sum, all income arising from the capital sum and any accumulations and additions thereto together form a fund called ‘The Stephen Cole the Elder Awards for Excellence in Teaching’ (‘fund’).

Investment of the fund

2. The fund is to be amalgamated for the purposes of investment, and held in a common fund, and the net income earned by the common fund shall be credited, rateably, to the funds so amalgamated and thereafter distributed according to the trusts specified by the University Council.

Obligations

3. In administering the fund, the University must adhere to the terms specified and is obliged:-

   (a) to invest the capital sum according to the directions of the donor(s); and

   (b) to establish a awards in the manner described in the following Rules.

Rules

4. The Stephen Cole the Elder Awards for Excellence in Teaching are administered according to the following Rules (abbreviated):-

   (1) Up to four Stephen Cole the Elder Awards for Excellence in Teaching will be offered in 2014, each worth $8000 to the winner. Both undergraduate and postgraduate coursework teams and teachers may be nominated. The two categories of award are:
(a) Stephen Cole the Elder Award for Excellence in Early Career Teaching (five years or less) - one award

(b) Stephen Cole the Elder Awards for Excellence in Teaching (more than five years) - up to two awards

(2) In any year, the Selection Panel may also recommend an additional award be made in either category.

(3) Each year, one awardee will also be selected to receive the Vice-Chancellor and President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching.

(4) All applications for Stephen Cole the Elder Awards for Excellence in Teaching will be assessed by a Selection Panel convened by the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience) on evidence provided in relation to the following five criteria:

(Note that the selection criteria are the same as those used in the Office for Learning and Teaching Citations and Awards).

(a) Approaches to teaching that influence, motivate and inspire students to learn
(b) Development of curricula and resources that reflect a command of the field
(c) Approaches to assessment and feedback that foster independent learning
(d) Respect and support for the development of students as individuals
(e) Scholarly activities that have influenced and enhanced learning and teaching

(5) Application is open to academic staff who have been employed in teaching-related roles for a minimum of three years at the University of Adelaide, including clinical, affiliate and adjunct titleholders.

(6) Both individual and team applications are encouraged. Team applications should consist of a maximum of four named applicants; while the written statement may acknowledge contributions from other staff members, those who have had the most significant contribution should be selected to represent the team. Teams may include, but not consist solely of, contract or sessional academic and professional staff.

(7) Application for the Early Career Teaching category is open to staff with no more than five years’ experience teaching in a higher education setting (this should be interpreted as five cumulative calendar years and includes all tutoring, part-time teaching, and teaching at other higher education institutions). In order to confirm eligibility, prospective applicants must submit an ‘Intention to apply for Early Career Teaching’ form, along with their CV, to the Teaching Awards and Grants Officer at least one month prior to the submission deadline.
(8) Recipients of a Stephen Cole Award are eligible to re-apply six years after receiving the Award.