Background and Purpose: The Dean's Excellence in Extension Award recognizes an individual that has made significant efforts and impact in their respective role to reach audiences through diverse program delivery, actively engage with local communities and stakeholders, foster positive relationships and partnerships that contribute positively towards the overall mission of outreach. One (1) individual award may be presented for the Dean's Excellence in Extension Award.

Criteria for Award:

<u>Program Innovation and Creativity:</u> Demonstrated development and implementation of innovative extension programs, initiatives, or interventions that effectively address the needs and priorities of target audiences; Creativity in designing and delivering educational materials, workshops, trainings, demonstrations, or events that engage and resonate with diverse stakeholders.

<u>Community Engagement and Partnership Building:</u> Active engagement with local communities, stakeholders, and target audiences to build meaningful relationships and partnerships; Collaboration with community organizations, government agencies, industry partners, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and other stakeholders to leverage resources, expertise, and support for extension activities.

<u>Impact and Effectiveness:</u> Evidence of significant impact and effectiveness in achieving extension goals and objectives; Demonstrated outcomes and success stories that illustrate the tangible benefits and positive changes resulting from extension efforts; Use of evaluation and assessment methods to measure the effectiveness and impact of extension programs and initiatives.

<u>Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusivity:</u> Recognition and respect for the diversity of cultural backgrounds, perspectives, and needs within the target communities; Implementation of extension programs and activities that are culturally sensitive, inclusive, and responsive to the unique needs and preferences of diverse audiences.

<u>Sustainability and Long-Term Engagement:</u> Strategies for promoting sustainability and long-term engagement with target communities beyond the duration of individual programs or initiatives; plans for building capacity, empowering local leaders, and fostering community ownership and resilience to ensure lasting impact and positive change.

<u>Leadership and Collaboration</u>: Leadership in advancing extension and outreach efforts within the institution and broader community; Collaboration with colleagues, partners, and stakeholders to leverage collective expertise, resources, and networks in support of extension and outreach goals.

<u>Communication and Dissemination:</u> Effective communication and dissemination of extension information, resources, and outcomes to target audiences and stakeholders;

Utilization of various communication channels, platforms, and technologies to reach and engage diverse audiences effectively.

<u>Adaptability and Response to Emerging Needs:</u> Ability to adapt to changing circumstances, emerging needs, and evolving challenges within target communities; Flexibility in adjusting extension strategies, approaches, and priorities to effectively address emerging issues and opportunities.