

## **Cognella Future Innovators in CJ Education Award**

The deadline for nominations is September 1, 2026.

Nominations sent to: Matthew C. Matusiak, [mmatusiak@ualr.edu](mailto:mmatusiak@ualr.edu)

Copy nomination to: Kimberly D. Dodson, [dodsonk@uhcl.edu](mailto:dodsonk@uhcl.edu)

The intent of the Cognella Future Innovators in CJ Education Award is to honor recently tenured faculty in Criminology/Criminal Justice who demonstrate exceptional promise as future leaders in the discipline. The recipient will receive a \$1,500 cash award, \$250 in Cognella book credits, a commemorative plaque, complimentary one-year ACJS membership, and recognition on the Cognella and ACJS websites, as well as in the Annual Meeting program.

This award supports educators who show a strong commitment to teaching, scholarship, and mentoring — individuals who model innovation, inspire students, and shape the future of the field.

### **Nomination requirements:**

Nominations shall include:

- A personal essay (500 words or fewer) describing how the nominee meets the award's selection criteria.
- One letter of reference each from:
  - A colleague,
  - A former or current student,
  - An administrator or supervisor.(All letters must directly support the nominee's qualifications and contributions.)
- Documentation of tenure conferred within the last 1–3 years.
- Evidence of having taught at least three CJ/Criminology courses in the 12 months preceding the nomination deadline.
- Confirmation of current ACJS membership.