

## **Headline News** Four win University-Wide Teaching Awards

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Put them on a pedestal and clap. They are four of York's great instructors, impeccable scholars whose passion for their subject is infectious, who engage and inspire students in the classroom and go the extra mile when students ask for guidance. They are Professors Fahim Quadir, and Allan Hutchinson, contract faculty member Diane Zorn and teaching assistant Irena Knezevic and they have won this year's University-Wide Teaching Awards.

The Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning ([SCOTL](#)), which selects the winners, announced this year's quartet at the March 22 Senate meeting. The four will be recognized at convocation ceremonies in June and their names will be engraved on plaques in Vari Hall.

Sponsored by the York Parents' Association, the annual awards recognize and aim to encourage the pursuit of teaching excellence. They also demonstrate the value York University attaches to teaching. The awards are presented to individuals for each of the following groups: senior full-time faculty; full-time faculty at York fewer than 10 years; contract faculty; and teaching assistants.

### **Fahim Quadir**

*Full-time professor at York for fewer than 10 years*

[Fahim Quadir](#) joined the Division of Social Science in the Faculty of Arts in 2001. As coordinator of International Development Studies, he has developed an array of new courses at the undergraduate level and played a leading role in creating a graduate program, to start in September.

### **Right: Fahim Quadir**

Before coming to York, he taught political science and global studies at various universities in Canada, the United States and Bangladesh and worked on several large-scale development and research projects in Canada and Bangladesh. His research interests range from democracy and civil society to regionalism and globalization, topics about which he has written in academic journals.



In her nomination letter, fellow social scientist Anne MacLennan says Quadir's "personal touch and interaction with each of the students in his class leaves a lasting impression. His teaching combines theory and praxis to give the students a very strong sense of the experiential. At the very core of the subject matters are issues of race and gender. Quadir is not only sensitive to diversity but broadens knowledge by creating a structure in which the subjects may be comfortably and intelligently explored. Clearly student and colleague comments share the view that Quadir empowers his student to venture beyond traditional scholarship to seek links to their studies and policy-making. It is in the practical application of their knowledge that students realize the global impact of development studies."

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