The Outstanding Educator Award honors individuals for excellence in geophysics education, and is awarded to a person who, in the unanimous opinion of the Honors and Awards Committee and the Board, merits such recognition, based on their educational qualities and contributions that may include:

- Outstanding contributions in teaching of geophysics classes at any educational level;
- Impact on education programs by commitment to excellence in geophysics education;
- Special dedication to advising, supervising, and mentoring students;
- Providing extraordinary inspiration to the next generation of geophysicists professionals.

A maximum of two awards can be given each year.

2017: Rosemary Knight, Scott Williamson
2016: Estella A. Atekwana, Roel Snieder
2015: Manika Prasad, Jie Zhang
2014: Sue Webb

Rosemary Knight is a professor at Stanford University where she is widely recognized as someone who cares about the personal welfare of students and postdoctoral scholars, as well as their scientific success. She is an example of excellent mentoring and advising. Knight has inspired students with an enthusiastic love for geophysics, focusing on the environment and near-surface geophysics. Her long list of awards and compliments are a testament to her dedication and excellence as an educator.