

**PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE AS A  
GRADUATE RESEARCH MENTOR**

The President's Award for Excellence as a Graduate Research Mentor will be presented annually to publicly recognize and reward those individuals who have accumulated an exemplary record of guiding and supporting graduate students as they master the skills, methods, and techniques needed to carry out research, scholarship and/or creative activity. This award recognizes the pivotal role of faculty in ensuring the success of the student experience and the high value placed on this endeavor by the College.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:**

1. Quality of Mentoring

There should be evidence that the faculty member promoted intentional learning by the student researcher contributing to their intellectual growth, problem solving ability, and communication skills, while creating new knowledge or original creative work. Evidence should also describe how a faculty mentor's role evolved through the stages of mentoring, from initially giving significant guidance and direction to interacting with the student more as a colleague as the student takes ownership of his/her work.

2. Experiential Benefits to Students

There should be evidence that former students increased their ability to contribute new knowledge or original creative work in their discipline and gained an understanding of how knowledge and new works of art are developed and evaluated within their discipline. Evidence should be presented that describes how students mastered material and/or skills and strengthened either their desire to pursue a chosen career field or their ability to contribute to their chosen profession as a result of their participation in graduate research that involved the close mentoring of a faculty member.

3. Communicating Research/Creative Activity

There should be evidence that the faculty member encouraged students to present their work not only to their peers within their disciplines, but also to colleagues in other fields, and to the public. Such evidence can be performances, visual exhibits, oral presentations, posters, abstracts, and other appropriate outlets. Heavier weight will be given to applications for mentors whose students did present at professional organizational meetings or whose students published in their field due to the mentoring process.

**NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS:**

Individual faculty may apply for the award, or faculty members may be nominated by their respective departments with the consent of the faculty member being nominated. Nominations may also arise from students, with the consent of the faculty member being nominated. Nominees must have been full-time teaching faculty members with graduate faculty status for four years prior to the nomination. As many as two full-time graduate faculty members may be selected in any one academic year.

Data provided should include but not be limited to:

1. Nomination form provided in this packet.
2. Letter of nomination detailing the specific characteristics that qualify the faculty member for the award and examples of how these characteristics are demonstrated.
3. A detailed summary of research projects/creative activities mentored (including name of student, title of project, brief description of project, outcomes (including presentations/performances/exhibits and any publications))
4. A current vita detailing candidate's professional career.
5. Support from colleagues (at least three letters)
6. Support from students (at least five letters)