

Faculty of Science Research and Scholarship Excellence Awards

The Faculty of Science has five research and scholarship award categories, and one award in each category may be presented each year.

1. Early Career Research Excellence Award
2. Early Career Scholarship Excellence Award
3. Established Career Research Excellence Award
4. Established Career Scholarship Excellence Award
5. Life-Time Achievement Research and/or Scholarship Excellence Award

The awards recognize the outstanding research and scholarship efforts of academic staff in the Faculty of Science. Each recipient will receive a stipend that can be used for professional activities and a commemorative certificate. Within a year of receiving any one of the Research and Scholarship Excellence Awards, recipients must present a public talk, highlighting their research or scholarship.

Definitions

Research: Diligent and systematic inquiry or investigation into a subject or intellectual tradition in order to discover or revise facts, and/or theories.

Scholarship: Innovative and creative application of existing knowledge to advance the practice, teaching, knowledge translation or economic innovation (commercialization) in a given academic field, or number of fields of study. Scholarship can be documented, replicated or elaborated, and peer-reviewed through various methods.

Excellence: Sustained impact of intellectual activity that leads to extraordinary recognition within and/or beyond the university community.

Criteria for the Research and Scholarship Excellence Awards

The Research and Scholarship Excellence Awards are intended to celebrate the Faculty of Science's ongoing achievements by recognizing and commemorating the excellence of our faculty members. As the scope of research and scholarship varies widely within the Faculty, the selection committee must consider evidence broadly. Every attempt will be made to ensure that the diversity of disciplinary areas of research and scholarship within the Faculty of Science is recognized in its expanding family of honorees.

The nominee must be the principal investigator, co-investigator, or a significant contributor to research/scholarship at the University of Calgary, and must demonstrate evidence of notable innovation and diligence that has impacted the intellectual tradition of scientific theory and practice. The nominee must set an extraordinarily high standard of academic excellence for other faculty members, graduate and undergraduate students, technical staff and the greater community. All accomplished facets of research and scholarship must be supported by documented/quantitative evidence and can be defined by demonstrating one, or more, of the activities outlined in Appendix A.

Eligibility

Research and Scholarship Excellence Awards are open to **ALL** academic staff in the Faculty of Science (including limited term, contingent term and continuing appointments).

Early Career Research Excellence Award and Early Career Scholarship Excellence Award

Individuals who have undertaken research/scholarship for ten or fewer years as an academic staff member at the post-secondary level are eligible for the Early Career Excellence Awards. A recipient cannot receive an Early Career Excellence Award more than once.

Established Career Research Excellence Award and Established Career Scholarship Excellence Award

Individuals who have undertaken research/scholarship for ten or more years as an academic staff member at the post-secondary level are eligible for the Established Career Excellence Awards. An academic staff member may win this award more than once; however, they will only be considered after a minimum of five years has passed since receipt of a previous award. For past award winners being nominated again, there must be evidence of growth and change in their research/scholarship program within the time period between the past award and current nomination.

Life-time Achievement Research and/or Scholarship Award

Normally, academic staff members who have been awarded two or more of the above excellence awards, or who have moved to the University of Calgary at a later point in their career, may be nominated for a Life-time Achievement Research and/or Scholarship Award. Nominees must show evidence of growth in their research/scholarship program within the time period between past awards and the current nomination. Once an individual has received a Life-time Achievement Research and/or Scholarship Award, they are no longer eligible for further nomination for any of the above award categories.

Nomination Process

Each department or program can nominate one individual for each award. The deadline for receiving nomination packages will be set each year.

Nomination Package

There are three or four key elements to the nomination package (depending upon the award category):

1. Nomination Letter

A letter (maximum five pages) from the Head or Program Director describing the nominee's qualifications for the research/scholarship award and highlighting the nominee's outstanding research/scholarship contributions.

2. Curriculum Vitae

An up-to-date CV highlighting the nominee's research/scholarship excellence. (The common CV may be used.)

3. Supporting Evidence

Supporting evidence that demonstrates the nominee's excellence in research and/or scholarship may include, but is not limited to, the following material:

Research

- Documentation of up to five publically accessible contributions made to the body of knowledge in related professional domains (refereed publications, refereed conference proceedings, books, book chapters, reports, etc.). Widely accepted indicators of impact (such as citations, journal impact factors, publications, and invited lectures) will be considered as quantifiable components of academic research.

Scholarship

- Data and information (maximum ten pages) collected on the development of scholarship as they relate to teaching projects rather than to the delivery of teaching materials. Examples of teaching projects include: data showing learning outcomes and relevant teaching practices, incorporation of discipline and pedagogical knowledge and innovation, public material to which people can respond, etc. This could also include sample course materials related to the teaching methods described by the nominee.
- Knowledge translation can include any number of activities which serve to transfer, mobilize, aggregate, implement, and/or interpret research-based knowledge or develop innovative methods of practical applications that can lead to economic innovations (i.e. patents, licenses, commercialization ventures, etc.). Activities vary according to the type and complexity of the research, user communities being targeted, and the need for particular knowledge.
- Other evidence that demonstrates advances made in the practice, teaching, knowledge translation or economic innovation (commercialization) in a given academic field, or number of fields of study.

4. External Letters of Support for Life-Time Achievement Research and/or Scholarship Award

The Life-time Achievement Research and/or Scholarship Award requires a minimum of two external letters of support.

Appendix A

Activities that contribute to research/scholarship excellence may include:

- Substantial contributions to the advancement of science through discipline(s), earning distinction for the researcher/scholar and for the University of Calgary;
- A history of external funding with communication of work within scientific or interdisciplinary conferences or published literature, (accompanied by evidence of impact);
- Receipt of individual grants, prizes, or fellowships from external foundations and granting agencies, which enable and enhance future research/scholarship;
- Development of powerful methods of applying theory to practice and/or teaching, accompanied by evidence of impact;

- Application of existing knowledge to guide network activity and ensure new knowledge becomes a resource for others;
- Involvement in leadership activities to generate research/scholarship interest and awareness;
- Identification and cultivation of external academic relationships to increase opportunities for creative collaboration with leading research and scholarship institutes and consortia.