Award Philosophy and Guidelines

The Regents Distinguished Research Award recognizes research excellence at Oklahoma State University. The term research includes all scholarly, scientific and creative activities. Recipients of the award will be selected based on the evidence of outstanding and meritorious achievements in research. The candidates must demonstrate a distinguished record of past and continuing excellence in research.

Awards

Each award will be comprised of a $2,000 permanent increase in annual salary plus associated fringe benefits, and an award plaque. Each college that submits the required nominations (see below) will receive one award per year, except the College of Arts and Sciences will receive two (one of which will be in the sciences and one in the arts and humanities).

Eligibility and Nomination Criteria

- Full-time faculty members (in any faculty appointment) who have been at OSU for four or more years as of the application deadline. Note that this includes tenure line as well as research faculty appointments.
- Evidence of excellence of the nominee’s research accomplishments.
- An individual can receive the award no more than twice.
- Each college must submit two nominations, except for the College of Arts and Sciences which must submit four (two nominations must be from the sciences and two from the arts/humanities disciplines).

Required Documentation

*All documentation MUST BE provided from internal OSU sources. Outside “letters of support/nomination” will not be accepted.

- A letter of nomination (from the nominee or from a colleague) which includes an impact statement (maximum of 2 pages) summarizing his/her research/creative contributions, and its impact on his/her field.
- One additional letter of recommendation from the unit head.
  - If a unit head is nominated then a letter of recommendation from the dean is required.
  - If the unit head is the nominator, then the additional letter of recommendation can come from any faculty colleague (within OSU).
- Biosketch Form (no reformatted or additional documents will be accepted in lieu of this form).

Award Process

- Deans, unit heads and Associate Deans for Research will be notified early in the spring semester of the availability of this award.
- Colleges will develop a process whereby nominations are accepted and selected for submission.
- Two nominations for each college award, except for the College of Arts & Sciences which must submit four (two nominations from the sciences and two from the arts/humanities), will then be forwarded by the dean of the college to the Vice President for Research (VPR) for consideration by the university selection committee.
- Complete nomination packages from the colleges will be due in the VPR office by Friday, April 16, 2021. Please submit all documentation in one, singular .pdf file by email to vprprograms@okstate.edu with the subject line “RDRA 2021 Submission.”

The selection committee’s recommendation will be due to the VPR no later than June 18, 2021.

The awards will be presented at the Fall Convocation.
Selection Committee

The committee will be chaired on a rotating basis by one of the associate deans for research according to the following schedule:

- Agriculture Sciences and Natural Resources
- Arts and Sciences
- Business
- Education, Health and Aviation and Human Sciences (combined)
- *Engineering, Architecture and Technology
- Veterinary Medicine

Other committee members will be identified from the following groups:

- One undergraduate research scholar (currently a Wentz or Niblack scholar)
- One graduate student
- Two faculty council members, one from the research committee and one at large
- One Associate Dean for Research, committee chair from previous year
- One unit head
- At-large selection to balance college representation

*Current Chair

Updated: November 24, 2020

Award program approved by the OSU Board of Regents January 31, 2003.