

UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARD

Purpose:

The *University Excellence in Research Award* seeks to acknowledge Faculty Association Members who are deemed exceptional researchers and scholars.

Definition:

Research excellence is measured by the following criteria (these examples are only meant as an illustrative guide, and not an exhaustive list):

1. Quality of scholarly output (e.g. peer-reviewed publications, documents informing policy, patents);
2. Sustained productivity of research in the context of overall teaching, research and service workload;
3. Relevant activities to communicate and demonstrate their research (workshops, conferences, etc.);
4. The stage of the researcher's career;
5. Ability to inspire undergraduate/graduate/post-doctoral students towards research excellence; and
6. External grants and contracts received (e.g. Tri-Council funding, funding from industry).

Criteria for the Award:

To be eligible to be nominated to receive an award, nominees must meet all of the eligibility criteria established in the "*University Excellence in Research Award: Terms of Reference*" document, nominees will hold a Tenured, Tenure-track, Probationary, Continuing or Regular Term Appointment, including those affiliated with the Northern Medical Program. Research awards are intended for those individuals who do not hold appointments in which their research accomplishments and responsibilities are specifically recognized, such as Canada Research Chairs, Endowed Chairs, Leadership Chairs, Research Scientists. Nominees must:

1. be outstanding in research or scholarship; and
2. provide clear evidence of outstanding achievement in research or scholarship.

Nomination Process:

The nomination process will follow the established procedures as outlined in the "*University Excellence in Research Terms of Reference*" document. Each nomination package must include:

1. A one-page letter of nomination signed by the nominator and including a minimum of two additional signatures of other supporters, and including the rationale of why the nominee is worthy of this award.

2. Any other relevant documentation which provides direct evidence in support of the nomination beyond documentation required by the nominee or Award Committee.

The nomination package is to be delivered to the Office of the Vice President Research, 2nd Floor Administration Building or research@unbc.ca.

Upon receipt of the nomination packages, the Chair of the Award Committee will contact nominees to congratulate them on being nominated for an award and confirm with each nominee that he/she accepts the nomination. If the nominee accepts the nomination, the nominee will provide to the Chair of the Award Committee:

1. a cover letter (maximum 3-page letter) outlining outstanding achievements and evidence of excellence in research or scholarship with reference to the criteria;
2. a standardized UNBC CV; and
3. any evidence that demonstrates research or scholarship excellence.

The award committee will utilize sound judgment when evaluating the nominations. The recipients of these awards will reflect the research diversity of the UNBC community and will be encouraged to act as ambassadors for the institution. The award committee may consider both excellence in research achievement over a shorter term (considering this in the context of sustained productivity over the member's UNBC career), or 'lifetime achievement'.

Recipients will be required to serve on the adjudicating committee in the following year along with two award recipient volunteers from the preceding year of the current competition.

Recipients of the Excellence in Research Award are not eligible to be nominated again for a three-year period after receiving the award. Previous years' award winners are listed at: http://www.unbc.ca/research/about/activity/excellence_award.html

Award Committee:

The Excellence in Research Award Committee consists of the following individuals:

- a. the Vice-President Research who will chair the committee;
- b. four Tenured or Tenure-track Faculty, Probationary or Continuing Senior Lab Instructors or Regular Term Members, all of whom shall either be the previous year's recipients or whom shall be elected representatives (maximum of two from each College); and
- c. two representatives appointed by the Association.

Revisions to the Award Criteria:

Future changes to the award criteria can be submitted by the Award Committee members and Members of the Association following the award selection process. Changes should be submitted to the Joint Committee by no later than June 30th. If approved by the Joint Committee, changes to the award criteria will be submitted to the Board of Governors for approval prior to the next Fall semester call for nominations.