President's Award for Scholarly and Creative Achievement

2026–2027

Call for Nominations — Guidelines

Purpose

The President's Award for Scholarly and Creative Achievement recognizes faculty members who have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in research, scholarship, creative activity, and the dissemination of knowledge that have enhanced the reputation of the university, their discipline, and the broader community.

Eligibility

Faculty nominees must:

- Hold a full-time faculty appointment (tenured, tenure-track)
- Have completed at least three years of service at the university
- Be in good standing with the institution
- Demonstrate a sustained record of excellence in scholarly and/or creative activity
- Not have received this award within the previous ten years.

Nomination Procedure

1. Each department may nominate one peer to be considered for this award per year. This nomination process must be completed by the November department meeting.

2. The nominated faculty member is required to prepare an abbreviated dossier and submit it *electronically* to the dean by the first Monday in December. The dossier must contain:

    a. Scholarly/Creative achievement summary that includes the significance of their work, the impact on their profession, evidence of sustained achievement over time, and their contributions to the university's mission and reputation (2-3 pages)

    b. Curriculum vitae highlighting publications, creative works, grants/contracts, presentations, awards/honors, scholarly leadership honors

    c. Two examples of supporting evidence (e.g., national awards, funded grants, books, performances, juried exhibitions, etc.)

3. Each College will design a process for identifying *one* candidate to be forwarded for consideration by the University Selection Committee. The name of each College's candidate must be forward to the Chair of the selection committee by12pm on the first Monday of the Spring semester by the Dean.

4. The Selection Committee will review the applications using the evaluation criteria below and submit its selection to the President by the end of the first week in February.

Evaluation Criteria

The nominee must submit:

Scholarly and Creative Excellence	Evidence of outstanding quality, originality, innovation, and rigor in scholarly or creative work	40%
Impact and Recognition	Evidence that the work has influenced the discipline, profession, community or society	30%
Sustained Achievement	Evidence of a consistent record of accomplishment over multiple years rather than a single noteworthy achievement	20%
Advancement of Institutional Reputation	Evidence that the nominee's work has enhanced the visibility and reputation of the university	10%

Acknowledgment

Recognition Plaque

A recognition plaque is presented by the President at the Employee Recognition Celebration.

Award Winner — $1,000

The winner will receive $1,000 in professional travel funds.

Timetable for the Award

Due Date	Owner	Action Item
Tuesday, November 3, 2026	Nominee / Department	One-page application, copy of the work, and two supporting documents submitted to the College Dean.
Monday, January 25, 2027	College Dean	Each College forwards one (and only one) candidate, with all materials, to the University Selection Committee.
Friday, February 5, 2027	Selection Committee Chair	Committee's awardee recommendation submitted to the Provost and President.
Tuesday, April 6, 2027	President	Recognition plaque presented at the Employee Recognition Celebration, Smith Student Center Ballroom.

University Selection Committee

Member	Role
Dr. Christine Karshin	Chair (non-voting); Dean of the College of Health Professions
Dr. Theresa Wajda	Member, HCOB

Member	Role
Dr. Christopher Maltman	Member, CES
Dr. Aaron Cowan	Member, CLA
Dr. Istvan Kovacs	Member, COE
Dr. Jennifer Willford	Member, CHP

Previous Winners

Date	Winner	Department
2025-2026	Dr. Christopher Maltman	Biology
2024-2025	Dr. Heike Hartmann	Environmental Geoscience
2024-2025	Dr. Melissa Ford	History
2023-2024	Dr. Betsy Kemeny	Recreational Therapy
2023-2024	Dr. Boris Brimkov	Mathematics and Statistics
2022-2023	Dr. Sagar Bhandari	Physics and Engineering
2022-2023	Dr. Jason Kush	Music
2021-2022	Dr. Qi Chen	Chemistry
2021-2022	Dr. Molly Mistretta	Counseling and Development
2020-2021	Dr. Thomas Pearcy	History
2019-2020	Dr. Pedro Salas Camus	Modern Languages and Cultures
2018-2019	Dr. Brett Barnett	Communication
2017-2018	Dr. Aaron Cowan	History
2016-2017	Dr. Alan Levy	Chemistry
2015-2016	Dr. Susan Hadley	Music
2014-2015	Dr. William H. Bergmann	History
2013-2014	Dr. Tom Sparrow	Philosophy
2012-2013	Dr. Benjamas Jirasakuldech	School of Business
2011-2012	No winner selected	
2010-2011	Dr. Alan Levy	History

Date	Winner	Department
2009-2010	Dr. David Dailey	Computer Science
2008-2009	Dr. Danette DiMarco	English
2007-2008	Dr. Timothy Smith	School of Physical Therapy
2006-2007	Dr. David Dixon	History
2005-2006	Dr. Cornelius Cosgrove & Nancy Barta-Smith	English
2005-2006	Dr. Michael Zieg	Geography, Geology and the Environment
2004-2005	Dr. Thomas Pearcy	History
2003-2004	No Winner Selected	
2002-2003	Dr. Jennifer Keller	Dance
2001-2002	No Winner Selected	
2000-2001	Dr. Jeffery Forrest	Mathematics
2000-2001	Dr. Bernard Freydberg	Philosophy
1999-2000	Dr. David Skeele	Theatre
1998-1999	Dr. Thomas Percy	History
1998-1999	Dr. Jerry Chmielewski	Biology