

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

President's Award for Scholarly and Creative Achievement for 2025-26: Guidelines

Nomination Procedure

1. Each department may at its December 2 faculty meeting select one faculty member to submit to its College Dean, by **Friday, January 9, 2026** (or before), a one-page application describing her/his/their scholarly or creative work and why the candidate believes that the work is worthy of the award. In addition to this one-page overview, a copy of the work itself plus two supporting documents will allow the Dean's Office to make a single selection for the College (see item #3 and #4, below, for more details).
2. The department in making its selection should use a process that addresses the criteria below in order to choose its one applicant/nominee.
3. A copy of the scholarly or creative work must be included in the application (either a print copy or an electronic copy). If multiple works are listed for consideration, just one should be highlighted as representative of the candidate's overall achievement.
4. Because the University selection committee is composed of representatives from all the colleges, we seek a broad understanding of the work appropriate for "outsiders" to the discipline. The award thus evaluates the work as well as the *impact* of the scholarly or creative work under consideration, so the submission must also include two supporting letters or documents, at least one of which may be an external letter or document (which is strongly encouraged, but not required). Supporting letters or documents may include, but are not limited to, such things as published reviews, expert testimony, juried exhibits, and newspaper reviews of performances and exhibits; they should provide a context for the work by giving evidence of its impact upon the audience of the work; further, the two letters/documents should help to establish the prestige of the venue where the work appears (acceptance rate, selectivity, and whether the work was blind peer-reviewed or not).
5. Each College will identify a process for forwarding one (and only one) candidate for the whole College by Friday, January 30.
6. Candidates should feel free to consult their College's representative on the selection committee for assistance and mentoring in preparing the application packet. See below for a list of those colleagues.

Criteria

The nominee must submit:

1. Only those works published, presented, developed, or performed in the last three years (December 2022-December 2025) as a member of the Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania community will be considered. Software development and other forms of scholarship in addition to publications are permitted; the winner three years ago composed and recorded a jazz album, for example.
2. Individuals are limited to one submission in one category—scholarly or creative achievement.
3. Impact and venue matter to the selection committee—what innovation and value does this scholarly work contribute to the discipline of which it's a part?
4. The application must be complete to be considered.

Acknowledgment

A recognition plaque is presented by the President at the Celebration of Achievement event in April, held in the Smith Student Center Ballroom. The winner will receive \$1000 in professional travel funds.

Timetable for the Award

The Dean shall forward all materials of that college's one chosen candidate to the University selection committee by Friday, January 30, 2026. The Selection Committee Chair will submit the committee's awardee recommendation to the Provost and President by Monday, February 9, 2026.

University Selection Committee

Dr. Dan Bauer, Chair (non-voting) and Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Bailey Library

Dr. Betsy Kemeny, Professor and Program Director of Recreational Therapy

Dr. Boris Brimkov, Associate Professor of Math

Dr. Molly Mistretta, Associate Professor of Counseling and Development

Dr. Theresa Wajda Soltis, Professor of Management and Marketing

Dr. Aaron Cowan, Professor of History