

Awards for Mentoring Undergraduates in Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities

The Office of the Provost is offering awards to recognize the important role mentors have in fostering undergraduates' intellectual, personal, and professional growth. We encourage students to participate in high-impact practices including research, scholarly and creative endeavors. These awards provide members of the faculty, academic staff, and post-doctoral fellows/graduate students with recognition for their excellence in mentoring our diverse body of undergraduates and contribution to a core component of students' Wisconsin Experience. The awards will provide \$2,000 of university expendable funds. Descriptions of the eligibility requirements, selection criteria, and application materials for these awards are described below.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Faculty members/research groups, academic staff members and post-doctoral fellows/graduate students are eligible.
- Nominees should have (or recently have had) responsibility for mentoring at least one undergraduate student or a group of undergraduates.
- Nominees can come from any discipline as long as they mentor undergraduates in a scholarly activity.
- Nominees regularly exhibit several of the actions/characteristics listed below in the "Criteria for Nominees."
- Awardees will be expected to attend the presentation of awards at the Ideas to Excellence Reception on April 13, 2017, at the close of the Undergraduate Symposium in Union South.

Criteria for Nominees:

- Successfully learn about and integrate needs of the undergraduate scholar into their work
- Support the undergraduate in his/her academic success beyond the shared scholarship experience – for example, have meaningful interactions related to professional development, beyond the scope of the student's project responsibilities, and actively support the undergraduate's academic and career aspirations
- Provide access and support in helping the undergraduate present, perform, and/or publish his/her project in a professional setting
- Maintain high expectations for undergraduate work and provide the undergraduate with a high level of support
- View teaching as integral to mentoring
- Give students autonomy and support in asking and exploring new questions
- Have a consistent track record of successful outcomes for undergraduates from a variety of backgrounds who worked in the group (presentation at professional conferences, publication, admission to graduate/professional school, etc.)
- Maintain active and continued mentorship after the students leave the group (e.g., keep in touch and support students as they move through their careers)

Application

- 1-page letter from the nominee's department chair or unit director making or endorsing the nomination and describing the nominee's approach to mentoring
- A minimum of 1 letter of support (maximum of 5 letters) from an undergraduate mentee describing the mentor's qualities
- One letter of support from a colleague, supervisor, or outside organization who can speak to the nominee's mentoring excellence and mentoring philosophy
- Short CV (1-2 pages) of the nominee

Applications should be assembled into a single pdf document and e-mailed to Phoua Vang, phoua.vang@wisc.edu by Friday, November 11, 2016. Questions can be directed to Vice Provost Steve Cramer at steven.cramer@wisc.edu or Assistant Vice Provost Laurie Mayberry at laurie.mayberry@wisc.edu. Awards will be presented to the recipients at the Undergraduate Symposium on Thursday, April 13, 2017, in Union South (<https://ugradsymposium.wisc.edu/>).