

TO: Faculty, College of Social and Behavioral Science
FROM: Jessie Fan, Associate Dean of Research
DATE: January 4, 2011
SUBJECT: Superior Research Awards

Please submit your nominations for the 2010-2011 Social and Behavioral Science Superior Research Awards. Each year I request nominations from faculty, but the awards are not necessarily annual. Awards will be presented only when a nominee clearly demonstrates a truly exceptional research record.

You may nominate associate and full professors for the senior award, and tenure-track assistant professors for the junior award. Please indicate on your nomination if it is for the junior category.

If you would like more information about the selection process, please feel free to speak to your department's representative who serves on the College Research Award Committee. The award committee will make recommendations to me for both the senior and junior awards.

Please bear in mind the following award process and criteria as you nominate your colleagues.

Process

1. By **Friday, January 21, 2011**, College faculty will send nominations for the award to the Dean's Office, 205 OSH.
2. The award committee will request a current vita and a chair's recommendation for each nominee.
3. The Research Award Committee's review should be at least as thorough as a tenure review.
4. The Research Award Committee will maintain the highest standards in selecting finalists, and may exercise the option to withhold an award in either category.
5. By February 4, 2011 the committee will evaluate the nomination files and will select up to three finalists for each of the award categories. If none of the nominees meets the criteria for the awards, the committee may elect to terminate the selection process at that time.
6. The committee chair will request a list of at least five external reviewers from the department chair, and then contact them (usually via e-mail) to see who is willing to do the reviews. Once there are two willing reviewers, the Associate Dean will mail them. The reviewers will be provided with the finalist's vita, the external reviewer criteria for the award, and asked specifically to assess the individual's contributions to his or her discipline. External review

letters from a recent formal review decision may be used if the finalist expresses such a preference.

7. For the senior award, the committee and the external reviewers will be asked to evaluate each senior award finalist's research, continuity, programmatic quality, and impact on the discipline. The committee will assess the junior finalists' records to date and their potential.
8. The committee will evaluate the external reviews and then make its recommendations to the Dean, who will then announce the Superior Research Award recipient(s).

Criteria

The Committee will evaluate each finalist's:

1. Research with respect to its continuity, programmatic quality and impact on the discipline, and, for junior category finalists, their potential.
2. The number, quality and kind (books, articles in refereed journals, chapters in edited books, etc.) of publications.
3. Membership on editorial boards.
4. Membership on agency or other review panels.
5. Professional service activities of distinction, honorary degrees awarded and induction to honorary societies.
6. Other indices of esteem or impact, such as major invited addresses, research grants and contracts, previous research awards, citation counts (where appropriate to the discipline), etc.

The External reviewers will be asked to evaluate each award finalist according to:

1. His or her research, its continuity, programmatic quality and impact on the discipline.
2. His or her contributions relative to the standards and practices of the discipline, acknowledging (and defining) those norms in such areas as the value of journal articles compared to books, the disciplines publication rate, typical frequency (and acceptability) of co-authored works, the relative record of grant awards, etc.

I encourage you to send in your nomination of colleagues whom you believe to be appropriate recipients of the Social and Behavioral Science Superior Research Awards to 205 Orson Spencer Hall by **Friday, January 21, 2011**.