



Vice Chancellor's Research Excellence Award for Senior Researchers 2011 Guidelines

1. Introduction

The Vice Chancellor's Research Excellence Award for Senior Researchers acknowledges outstanding contributions to research by UOW individual researchers.

The purpose of this Award is to recognise and encourage outstanding researchers with proven international reputations undertaking research that is of major importance in its field and who have made a significant contribution in advancing knowledge and research outcomes by either:

- Maintaining an exceptional record of sustained high level research activity during their employment with the University, particularly within the last 5 years; or
- Spearheading a major research breakthrough

A single Award will be made annually. The Award will be presented at the Vice-Chancellor's Awards ceremony.

2. Eligibility

To be eligible to apply, individuals must:

- a) Have been employed by UOW for at least 2 years and have occupied their current position for at least 12 months.
- b) Hold a full-time or fractional (0.5 FTE or greater) academic and/or research appointment (Academic Level C or higher), in the year of nomination.
- c) Hold a guaranteed appointment that extends at least one year beyond the anticipated date of the Award being made (i.e., beyond June 2012).

An individual who is a past recipient of a Vice Chancellor's Research Excellence Award for Senior Researchers is not eligible to be nominated again for this Award.

3. Nominations

A nomination must be made by one person who is familiar with the nominee's field of research and achievements. The nominator may be from the nominee's own Academic Unit. In addition, details of two referees, who can comment on the nominee's performance against the selection criteria at Section 5 below must be provided. Referees may be UOW or external academics (e.g., research collaborators, industry partners, colleagues).

The nominator will be responsible for co-ordinating the completion and submission of the nomination form and testimonial to the Research Services Office. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

Nominations must be made on the appropriate form and should include a testimonial of no more than two pages explaining why the researcher(s) deserves to be recognized for their research and addressing the selection criteria outlined at Section 5 below. A CV of the researcher being nominated must also be included.

Nominations will be submitted to the Director of the Research Services Office.

4. Value of Awards

The winner will receive a certificate and a total cash award of \$4,000 at the annual Vice-Chancellor's Awards ceremony. The Award will be available as a university research account to be used by the individuals to further their research and/or professional development. The Awards cannot be taken as salary.

5. Selection Criteria

Nominations will be judged on a range of criteria that may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Significance of the research in contributing to new knowledge and/or innovations in the discipline
- Evidence of sustained and excellent performance, particularly in the past five years. Performance should be considered against quality indicators and norms for research performance within a given discipline, in addition to more general measures of competitive research grant or commercial research income, publications and student completions.
- Evidence of national and international recognition and impact of the research.
- Evidence of research leadership (eg, encouraging teamwork, mentoring and training of early career researchers and HDR students).
- Evidence of inter-disciplinary research collaborations.

6. Selection

The Award will be decided by a Committee chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research). Other members will include the Director of the Research Services Office and two professorial level research academics.

In making a decision the Committee may interview relevant persons as necessary. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Vice-Chancellor. The Vice-Chancellor's decision is final and there will be no appeal of the outcome.

7. Administration

The Award will be administered by Personnel and Financial Services.