



Vice Chancellor's Interdisciplinary Research Excellence Award - Guidelines

1. Introduction

The Vice Chancellor's Interdisciplinary Research Excellence Award recognises outstanding contributions to research by a team of UOW researchers collaborating across discipline boundaries, who have combined their expertise to produce achievements of outstanding international significance.

The purpose of this Award is to recognise a groundbreaking research outcome that has involved collaboration and integration by a research team whose members are from two or more unrelated disciplines. The Award aims to encourage outstanding, innovative research that demonstrates the benefits of practical interdisciplinary cooperation.

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

2. Eligibility

The research for this Award may be for a single project or a body of work. In either case, the research must have:

- Been undertaken by a research team involving members who have worked together across two or more unrelated disciplines.
- Involved a research team comprising at least one currently employed UOW academic staff member from each of the disciplines represented.
- Been published in internationally respected journal(s), book(s) or equivalent electronic publications; and
- Been undertaken no more than **five (5) years** before the closing date for nominations.

Achievements must have been made jointly by the team members, not as individual researchers separate from the team's activities.

3. Nominations

This Award is open to research teams involving UOW academic staff. The nominator may be either a past or present UOW staff member. Self nominations are acceptable. The nominator will be responsible for co-ordinating the completion and submission of the nomination form and testimonial to the Research Services Office (RSO).

Nominations must be made on the appropriate form and should include a testimonial of no more than four pages explaining why the research collaboration deserves to be recognised, addressing the selection criteria at Section 5 below

and including a description of the team's achievements in one or more of the following areas:

- contributions to knowledge
- use of existing knowledge to develop novel solutions to practical problems
- leadership in the transfer of knowledge, and
- interdisciplinary and collaborative nature of the team and its achievements

Each research team member should also provide a brief (2 page) curriculum vitae.

4. Value of Awards

The winning research team will receive a certificate and a total cash award of \$4,000 (to be shared amongst the team) at the annual Vice-Chancellor's Awards ceremony. The Award will be available as a university research account to be used by the team to further support 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, impact and excellence of the research.
- Novelty of the conceptual or investigative approach (including the extent to which the research has combined different research paradigms).
- Strength of the interdisciplinary team, including collaboration and team work.
- Quality of the contribution to the training of research students and staff in a collaborative and interdisciplinary setting.

Note: interdisciplinary research collaborations that involve two or more quite disparate and unrelated disciplines will be viewed favourably.

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 RSO 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.