

Award for Exceptional Achievements in Creative Scholarly Activity

**Sponsored by
The University Research Council**

The University Research Council (URC) seeks to nurture, promote, and recognize the research and creative scholarly accomplishments of NMSU faculty, staff and students. As part of this effort, URC will present up to four annual awards to NMSU faculty and staff in recognition of exceptional research and/or other creative scholarly efforts produced at NMSU.

Complete applications, including external letters of recommendation, must be received, via email, by the close of business on Monday, September 27, 2021. Applications should be sent to Cortney Castle-Chavez (cortneyc@nmsu.edu).

Award Categories and Eligibility*

Award Name

Who is Eligible to Apply?

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| 1) Early Career Award | Faculty who are in the process of establishing themselves as independent researchers, usually within 5-7 years of their terminal degree. |
| 2) Distinguished Career Award | More senior faculty who can demonstrate a lengthy record of scholarly accomplishment that has attracted outside recognition. |
| 3) Research Recognition Award | Staff who conduct and/or enable research and scholarly activity. |
| 4) Excellence in Team Research Award | Teams of ≥ 2 researchers who fall into any of the categories above. |

*Please note that **all applicants must be in good standing with the university**. Students are not eligible for any of these awards. Administrators are also not eligible unless the activities described occurred when they were not in an administrative position or were unrelated to their administrative activities.

Application Materials Required**

The application packet will consist of:

- a nomination letter from a faculty or staff member to the Vice President for Research
- at least one, and no more than three, external letters (from outside NMSU) that describes the impact the nominee has had in their field of expertise
- research vitae documenting the scholarly and creative activities undertaken by the nominee not to exceed 12 pages
- additional documentation (e.g., photos, videos, not to exceed 4GB) may be submitted *for those fields in which such materials are considered standard documentation*; this additional documentation should be commensurate with the spirit of the 12-page limit of the research vitae

** No other materials should be submitted. Packets that do not meet the criteria will not be considered.

Evaluation Criteria

Examples of scholarly and creative activity that will be considered in the committee's decision are:

1. Outstanding original research achievements as evidenced by the significance of the research in advancing knowledge in the field of study; publications in peer-reviewed, refereed journals; peer-citations of published works; success in attracting outside funding as principal investigator; nature of outside funding (i.e., prestige and level of national competition for the awards); scholarly books; chapters in scholarly books; monographs.
2. Outstanding creative achievements such as performances, design portfolios, books, exhibits, artwork, installations, textbooks, curricula, electronic media or other achievements that obtained significant recognition from colleagues at and outside NMSU.
3. Outstanding technical achievements evidenced by external awards for creative scholarly activities, patents, invited talks/performances, conference presentations, consulting activity, etc.

Final Determination and Presentation of Award

Award winners will be selected by the Vice President for Research from a final list recommended by the URC. The URC review panel will include members of the URC and may include ad-hoc reviewers as appropriate to best evaluate the applications. The URC review panel may recommend more or fewer than one award for any category depending on the number and quality of applications received. Before reviewing any application packets, the Provost will confirm that an applicant is in good standing with the university.

Each individual or team award winner will receive a monetary award, the amount of which may be determined by the number of awards issued and will be celebrated during Spring Convocation and during the URC Research and Creativity Week, where winners will be expected to present a 30 minute talk about their achievements in creative scholarly activity.