UNIVERSITYof **HOUSTON** | RESEARCH

Awards for Excellence in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Program

The University of Houston (UH) is pleased to announce the Awards for Excellence in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Program for 2022-2023. Awards of $8,000 each will be made to six (6) faculty, two (2) each at the Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor levels. Priority will be given to accomplishments while in service to the University of Houston.

Awards at the rank of **<u>Professor</u>** are for those who have compiled a substantial continuing record of outstanding research, scholarship and creative activities. Nominees for this award must have achieved pre-eminence in their field. At the time of nomination, an individual must have at least five (5) years of service at UH.

Awards at the rank of **<u>Associate Professor</u>** are for those who have established a growing record of outstanding research, scholarship and creative contributions, and who are at the point of emerging leadership in their field. At the time of nomination, individuals must have at least three (3) years of service at UH.

Awards at the rank of **<u>Assistant Professor</u>** are for those who have demonstrated great potential in research, scholarship and creative endeavors by virtue of the exceptional quality of their early contributions. At the time of nomination, individuals must have at least two (2) years of service at UH.

Nominations are sought from all units across campus but should be limited to those individuals who are clearly exceptional. **An individual can receive an award only once at any level. Faculty who have won an Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity at any level may not be nominated again.** We trust that these awards, although limited in number, will provide visibility and appreciation for the excellent research, scholarship and creative activity found throughout the University.

Self-nominations are not allowed. Nominators must be UH faculty members and may make no more than one nomination at each rank. Candidates are evaluated by the Research Excellence subcommittee, which is composed of members across multiple colleges elected to faculty senate Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC). This subcommittee regularly reviews statements of "research excellence" (per discipline cluster or department) provided by the Associate Deans of Research (ADR) for each college and conducts a full committee review and discussion of each applicant in their deliberation.

Evaluations will be based on persuasiveness of arguments for merit and evidence of the nominee's accomplishments as described in:

1. The letter of nomination;

2. Relative comparisons with others in the field, as well as significance and scope of contribution(s) as described in arm's length letters from outside the University and in the nominee's field;
3. Assessment of accomplishments from the curriculum vitae (CV).

Each candidate will be rated on criteria relevant to their discipline. Examples (not exhaustive and a variety of accomplishments are possible across disciplines): articles, books, choreographies, citations, commissioned works, concerts, critics' reviews, directing plays and/or films, exhibitions, installations, fellowships, grants, key roles in significant projects, national/international awards, patents, peer-reviewed publications, inclusion in important anthologies, prose and poetry collections, press releases, prizes, recordings, translations and/or critical editions, translations of the candidate's work, monographs, invited/keynote presentations at major national/international meetings and at other universities, and other research funds from donations, contracts, or agencies with limited competition and/or peer review.

Nomination letters should explain how the nominee's accomplishments match the standards of excellence for awards in any of these areas. Nomination letters should comply with the following guidelines:

1. Candidates at the level of **Professor**: The nominator should describe significant accomplishments by the nominee, relating them to the impact they have made on the field, the university, and the department (800 words maximum) emphasizing contributions made while in service to UH.
2. Candidates at the levels of **Associate Professor** and **Assistant Professor**: The nominator should describe the nominee's impact on her/his field, the university, and the department with emphasis on evidence of the nominee's accomplishments and potential for achieving research, scholarship and creative pre-eminence (800 words maximum).
3. Attach the nominee's complete CV.

Nominations should include three letters of recommendation from people in the nominee's area who can attest to the significance of the nominee's accomplishments. Recommendation letters must be arms-length. Arms-length recommenders cannot be former or current thesis/dissertation advisers, co-authors, students, relatives, collaborators, mentors, or close friends of the nominee. The nominator should take particular care to screen out letters that are not arms-length. Any letters that are not arms-length will be given no weight by the Research Excellence subcommittee. The Subcomittee will still consider nominees who have a letter excluded on this basis.

The letters should describe the familiarity of the referee with the candidate, the nature of any relationship to the nominee, and the history of any professional relationships. A short biosketch for each recommender should be included, which can be in NSF, NIH, NEH, or a narrative format. Recommendation letters can be used for a period of up to 3 years. If a nominee is being re-nominated, the letter of nomination and the CV must be updated.

Nominations must be submitted electronically using the link to the online nomination form located on the Excellence Awards webpage. Attach all required documents to the nomination form as (1) single PDF no later than 5 p.m. Friday, January 13, 2023.

No nominations will be accepted after the deadline.

Schedule

Program Announcement	September 9, 2022
Nominations Due	January 13, 2023
Initial Review Completed	February 17, 2023
Announcement of Awards at Faculty Award Dinner	Spring 2023

Combine all files of the completed nomination packet using the criteria listed above into a **single PDF**. Name the file LAST_FIRST_2023 where the LAST is the nominees last name, and the FIRST is the nominees first name. Attach the file to the Nomination Form using the link located on right side of the Division of Research (DOR) Awards for Excellence webpage.

ONLY THE FIRST ATTACHED PDF WILL BE REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED

Assistance

All questions related to this program should be submitted to Dr. Ezemenari Obasi, Associate Vice President for Research Administration, emobasi@uh.edu.

The review dates depend on the RSC review capacity and are approximate. Please do not call or email regarding the review results.