

Awards for Mentoring Undergraduates in Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities

The Office of the Provost is offering awards to recognize the important role mentors have in fostering undergraduates' intellectual, personal, and professional growth. We encourage students to participate in high-impact practices including research, scholarly and creative endeavors. These awards provide members of the faculty, academic staff and graduate students with recognition for their excellence in mentoring our diverse body of undergraduates and contribution to a core component of students' Wisconsin Experience. The awards will provide \$2,000 of university expendable funds. Descriptions of the eligibility requirements, selection criteria, and application materials for these awards are described below.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Faculty members, academic staff members, post-docs and graduate students are eligible.
- Nominees should have (or recently have had) demonstrated responsibility for mentoring and working closely with UW-Madison undergraduate students in an independent learning environment.
- Nominees can come from any discipline as long as they mentor undergraduates in a scholarly activity.
- Nominees regularly exhibit several of the actions/characteristics listed below in the "Criteria for Nominees."
- Awardees will be expected to attend the presentation of awards at the Friends & Family Reception on Friday, April 3, 2020, at the Undergraduate Symposium in Union South.

Criteria for Nominees:

- Successfully learn about and integrate needs of the undergraduate scholar into their work
- Support the undergraduate in their academic success beyond the shared scholarship experience – for example, have meaningful interactions related to professional development, beyond the scope of the student's project responsibilities, and actively support the undergraduate's academic and career aspirations
- Provide access and support in helping the undergraduate present, perform, and/or publish their project in a professional setting
- Maintain high expectations for undergraduate work and provide the undergraduate with a high level of support
- View teaching as integral to mentoring
- Give students autonomy and support in asking and exploring new questions
- Have a consistent track record of successful outcomes for undergraduates from a variety of backgrounds who worked in the group (presentation at professional conferences, publication, admission to graduate/professional school, etc.)
- Maintain active and continued mentorship after the students leave the group (e.g., keep in touch and support students as they move through their careers)

Application

- 1-page letter from the nominee's department chair or unit director making or endorsing the nomination and describing the nominee's approach to mentoring
- A minimum of 1 letter of support (maximum of 5 letters) from an undergraduate mentee describing the mentor's qualities
- One letter of support from a colleague, supervisor, or outside organization who can speak to the nominee's mentoring excellence and mentoring philosophy
- Short CV (1-2 pages) of the nominee

Applications should be assembled into a single pdf document and e-mailed to Phoua Holt, phoua.holt@wisc.edu by Friday, November 15, 2019. Questions can be directed to Vice Provost Steve Cramer at steven.cramer@wisc.edu. Awards will be presented to the recipients at the Undergraduate Symposium on Friday, April 3, 2020, in Union South (<https://ugradsymposium.wisc.edu/>).