University of Essex
Celebrating Excellence in Research and Impact Awards 2020
Research Awards Guidance
Celebrating Excellence in Research Awards 2020

In 2020 the University of Essex is holding an award event entitled ‘Celebrating Excellence in Research and Impact Awards’ that will jointly celebrate and showcase the excellent research and impact that has been generated by the University’s academic community.

The Research Awards are designed to recognize and celebrate the world leading research carried out by the academic community at the University of Essex. The winners of these awards will be leading research that is excellent in terms of significance and generation of novel insight, and in terms of rigour and innovation of approach.

There will be three categories of award:

1. Research Champion

   This award will recognise academic staff with a significant track record of outstanding research and who have shown leadership in supporting or enabling others to deliver high quality research. There will be three awards for this category (one for each Faculty)

2. Outstanding Interdisciplinary Research

   This award will recognize a team of academic staff who together have delivered exceptional interdisciplinary research that spans across departments and/or faculties

3. Outstanding Early Career Researcher

   This award will recognize academic staff at an early stage of their independent career (awarded a PhD no earlier than 1 March 2015) who have produced outstanding research and demonstrate strong future potential. There will be three awards for this category (one for each Faculty)

The closing date for nominations is 4pm on Friday 28 February 2020.

Award Winners will be invited to the Celebrating Excellence in Research Awards event to be held on 28 April 2020 at the University of Essex Colchester Campus where they will be invited to give a short presentation of their work. Winners will also receive an inscribed award and a £1,000 prize to support their research.

Professor Christine Raines (PVC, Research)
Guidance Notes

This guidance document is for nominations for Research Awards only – there is a separate Guidance document for the Impact Awards.

1. Application process

Heads of Departments/Schools are asked to identify and submit a maximum of two nominees for each category.

To identify potential nominees, Heads of Departments/Schools and Directors of Research should invite senior staff to put forward nominations and invite academic staff for self-nominations. In addition to the application form, information contained in the RIS should be used to inform selection of candidates to be considered for an award.

The nomination process should be managed through the School/Department and a transparent process should operate to identify the nominees to be submitted to the PVC Research.

Nominees should read the guidance notes/assessment criteria and complete the nomination pro forma.

The nominations for each School/Department (max of 2 nominations per award category) must be submitted to Dr. Cathleen Cortis Mack (Research Planning Officer, REO) at ccorti@essex.ac.uk by 4pm on Friday 28 February 2020.

Nominations will be assessed by a judging panel led by Professor Christine Raines (PVC - Research) and Dr. Rob Singh (Acting Director of the Research and Enterprise Office) and also involving the Deputy Deans for Research to identify the winners in each category.

2. Eligibility

Nominated individuals must be academic members of staff based at the University of Essex. In the case of the Early Career Researcher Award, nominees must be academic members of staff at an early stage of their independent career (awarded a PhD no earlier than 1 March 2015)

3. Assessment criteria

Research Champion

Above the discipline norm in more than one of the following:

- Significant and sustained research income
- Prestigious external awards (e.g. FBA/FRS or equivalent)
Leadership of successful (funding, high profile outputs) international collaborations
Supporting research of other colleagues (through e.g. co-authoring papers, PI/CoPI on grants)

**Outstanding Interdisciplinary Research**

A group of researchers from more than one discipline who together have achieved above the norm in their disciplines in one of the following:

- Winning external research income
- Level of outputs in both quality and quantity
- Externally funded international collaborations.
- Receipt of a significant external prize.

**Outstanding Early Career Researcher**

Above the discipline norm for the stage of career:

- In capture of research income
- Quality and quantity of outputs.

4. The Awards

Each successful award will receive a £1,000 prize to further their research endeavours. In addition, the award winner/s will receive an inscribed award.

The awards and award winners will also feature in the University’s on-going promotion of its research in internal and external communications to recognise and celebrate the excellent research taking place at the University. Consequently, the award winner/s will be asked to submit a brief update on their use of the financial award to the Research Planning Officer (Dr. Cathleen Cortis Mack) via ccorti@essex.ac.uk within 18 months of the award.

5. Contact

For further guidance please contact the Research Planning Officer (Dr. Cathleen Cortis Mack) at ccorti@essex.ac.uk