

## University of Guelph Honours and Awards Strategy

The goals of the University of Guelph Honours and Awards strategy are to:

- Foster a culture that recognizes and celebrates research excellence from career start to end, across all disciplines
- Enhance the university's profile as a research-intensive university

To achieve these goals, the Office of Research will partner with Colleges to:

1. Strategically support honours and awards nominations
2. Implement equitable and transparent selection processes to improve success
3. Communicate and broker opportunities
4. Promote and celebrate research excellence

## Objectives

The Office of Research will partner with Colleges to:

### 1. Strategically support honours and awards nominations by:

#### a. *Categorizing awards*

The following three categories are based on prestige and sponsor requirements. **Category 1** includes high-prestige awards requiring institutional endorsement (often with signature of VPR or President). **Category 2** are high-prestige awards which do not require institutional endorsement. **Category 3** identifies discipline-specific awards.

**Table 1: Categories of awards administered across campus.**

Categories	Sponsor requirements	Examples *
<b>Category 1:</b> high prestige national or international awards which require institutional endorsement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Institutional endorsement and/or submission required by sponsor</li> <li>- Internal adjudication (selection) <i>may</i> be required by sponsor</li> <li>- May require President/VPR signature</li> </ul>	Royal Society <a href="#">Fellows</a> and <a href="#">Medals</a> ; <a href="#">SSHRC Impact</a> ; <a href="#">Polanyi Prize</a> ; <a href="#">Trudeau Fellow</a> ; <a href="#">NSERC Synergy</a>
<b>Category 2:</b> high prestige national or international awards which <i>do not require</i> institutional endorsement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No</b> selection required by sponsor;</li> <li>- <b>No</b> institutional endorsement or submission required by sponsor (submitted by nominee or nominator)</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Killam Prize</a> ; <a href="#">NSERC Brockhouse</a> ; <a href="#">CIFAR Azrieli Global Scholar</a> ; <a href="#">Guggenheim Fellow</a>
<b>Category 3:</b> Disciplinary + University Research Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>No</b> institutional endorsement or submission required (submitted by nominee or nominator)</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Wiley Prize</a> in Biomedical Sciences; Fundamental Physics: <a href="#">New Horizons Prize</a> ; <a href="#">Grawemeyer Award</a> in Psychology

#### b. *Allocating resources strategically.*

Categories will assist in allocation of resources (See Table 2.) Other nomination resources will include an online, password-protected library of successful UG nominations, nominator templates with tips. The ORS will also maintain a contact list of successful nominees willing to assist with development of new nominations.

### 2. Implement equitable and transparent adjudication processes to improve success by

#### a. *Establishing competitive success indicators, and monitoring progress toward these*

Success indicators include: an increase in number of nominations submitted; increase in numbers of successful nominations and success rates.

*b. Establishing equity, inclusion, and diversity objectives and indicators, and monitor progress toward achievement of these*

This will include setting targets for, for example: expressions of interest submitted for internal selection; nominations submitted and/or supported by the university; internal awards.

Some numbers will be most meaningful at an aggregate level and, for consideration of gender, according to disciplinary area (STEM and SSH).

*c. Establishing an Advisory Committee – Major Awards to oversee and be responsible for achievement of this objective*

Membership:

The 10-member committee will be comprised of a non-voting chair (appointed by the Vice-President, Research), one representative from each College (appointed by the Dean), one non-voting secretary (the ORS awards coordinator/officer), and one representative from the Office of Diversity and Human Rights. Where possible, the college representative should also be a member of the college-level awards committee to facilitate communication. Members serve a three-year term.

Mandate: The Advisory Committee - Major Awards will:

- Be responsible for ensuring equitable and transparent adjudication processes, including monitoring and course-correction
- Solicit names of potential nominees for awards and prizes (across all three categories) by communicating with college-level committees;
- Share best practices by organizing presentations by members on different aspects of the awards and prizes process;
- Review recommendations for nomination to institutional awards and advise the VPR as to the likelihood of success against award criteria.

### **3. Communicate and broker opportunities by**

#### *a. Broadcasting and forecasting*

This includes the existing platform, Research Alerts, and an online awards calendar, which will show external and internal deadlines across the full calendar year.

#### *b. Engaging*

*Enhancing Global Recognition for Canadian Research Excellence* identifies the types of awards that scholars at different career stages should be nominated for and offers clear suggestions for how best to support the building of an awards “ladder.” College and department leaders and College Research Managers all play important roles in helping faculty build these ladders, and in encouraging faculty at all levels to pursue nominations. College Award Committees and departmental Tenure and Promotion committees might also play a role in the process of identifying potential nominees for both internal and external awards.

### **4. Promote and celebrate research excellence**

In addition to co-sponsoring the University Research Leadership Chairs and Excellence Awards, the Office of Research will promote and celebrate research excellence through two main activities: a research event/lecture series (managed by Research Communications); the annual Research Excellence Gala (managed by the Office of Research, VPR). Each of these activities entails a promotional strategy.

## Implementation Plan

The aim of the implementation plan is to provide high quality review and administrative services to develop high-priority nominations and to maintain current service levels for promotion. It does not require additional resources.

The establishment of the Advisory Committee—Major Awards is key to the plan. A transparent internal process for evaluating and selecting nominations is integral not only to enhancing competitiveness of proposals but also to resourcing levels. Without review and selection, the number of nominations increases, and resources are spent on nominations that are not competitive and/or that do not meet award criteria.

As noted above, colleges and/or departments are integral to implementing the Honours and Awards Strategy, but as processes and services will vary Table 2 shows only Office of Research processes and resources.

**Table 2: Implementing the UG Honours and Awards Strategy**

		Processes and Resources
Strategically support nominations	<b>Category 1</b> High prestige  Require endorsement	Internal selection ORS services: strategic and administrative review, coordination and submission
	<b>Category 2</b> High prestige  No endorsement	No internal evaluation ORS services: Administrative review and submission
	<b>Category 3</b> Disciplinary	ORS services: none
Communication and brokering		ORS services: research alerts and calendar of awards
Celebration and Promotion		Research Communications -Manage Guelph Research promotion VPR Office -Coordinate the research gala