2023 DRI Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity (RSCA) Awards

The Division of Research and Innovation is pleased to announce that nominations are currently open for new awards that will be given annually to honor the outstanding RSCA contributions of faculty and postdoctoral scholars at SDSU. Nominations are open until 2/1/23 and can be made via InfoReady. Please see the list of awards below for descriptions and eligibility. Nominations can be made by any SDSU faculty member (except for the Postdoctoral Scholar Award). Self-nominations are not allowed.

Non-Tenure Track Faculty Outstanding RSCA Award

Award Description: This award recognizes outstanding RSCA productivity and disciplinary impact for non-tenure track faculty at SDSU. Nominations for this award should describe the impact of the RSCA on the nominee's field of study and focus on RSCA efforts done at SDSU.

Eligibility: Any full-time, non-tenure track, faculty member (does not include postdoctoral researchers) who has been at SDSU for at least 3 years.

Prize: $2,000

Nomination Process and Materials:
- The following nomination materials are required and should be uploaded as a single PDF within the InfoReady portal:
  - Nomination letter (1-2 pages) clearly describing the evidence and impact of the nominee's work on their field of study.
  - Nominee's curriculum vitae (CV).

Postdoctoral Scholar Award

Award Description: Given the important role and contributions of postdoctoral research scholars at SDSU as well as the critical component of mentoring to the training of future scholars, this award will recognize the RSCA accomplishments from work performed in an SDSU postdoctoral scholar position. These accomplishments could include research/scholarship achievements, prestigious awards, inventorship/entrepreneurship, or extramural funding. This award also recognizes the significant contributions to mentoring and training by an SDSU faculty member who is sponsoring the postdoctoral scholar nominee.

Eligibility: Current SDSU postdoctoral scholars who have been at SDSU for at least 1 year and their SDSU Faculty mentor.

Prize: $1,500 for the SDSU postdoctoral scholar and $1,500 for the SDSU mentor.

Nomination Process and Materials:
- Nominations can be made by any SDSU faculty member who is not the mentor of the postdoctoral scholar being nominated.
- The following nomination materials are required and should be uploaded as a single PDF within the InfoReady portal:

- Nomination letter (2-3 pages) clearly describing the accomplishments of the postdoctoral scholar as well as the contributions of the mentor to the training of the current scholar and past scholars, if applicable.
- Nominee and mentor's curriculum vitae (CV).

Artistic and Creativity Award

Award Description: This award recognizes outstanding research and scholarship contributions of a tenured or tenure track faculty member at SDSU in the creative or performing arts whose scholarly body of work has led to significant impact on their field of study. The nominee should be recognized as a leader in their field.

Eligibility: Any full-time, tenured, or tenure-track faculty member at any rank who has been at SDSU for at least three years.

Prize: $2,000

Nomination Process and Materials:
- The following nomination materials are required and should be uploaded as a single PDF within the InfoReady portal:
  - Nomination letter (1-2 pages) clearly describing the evidence and impact of the nominee's work on their field of study.
  - Nominee's curriculum vitae (CV).

Humanities Scholar Award

Award Description: This award recognizes the outstanding research and scholarship contributions of a tenured or tenure-track faculty member whose body of work falls within the disciplines of the Humanities. The impact of the nominee's body of work in the Humanities should be significant and establishes the nominee as a leader in their field.

Eligibility: Any full-time, tenured, or tenure-track faculty member at any rank who has been at SDSU for at least three years.

Prize: $2,000 (two awards)

Nomination Process and Materials:
- The following nomination materials are required and should be uploaded as a single PDF within the InfoReady portal:
  - Nomination letter (1-2 pages) clearly describing the evidence and impact of the nominee's work on their field of study.
  - Nominee's curriculum vitae (CV).

Public Impact Award

Award Description: Bringing research, scholarship, and creative activity into the public arena is an important component of the mission of SDSU. This award recognizes a research or creative activity project of a SDSU tenured or tenure-track faculty member or team that has resulted in significant community and public impact. The public benefit of this project could be local, national, or global.

Eligibility: Any full-time, tenured, or tenure-track faculty member at any rank who has been at SDSU for at least three years. For a team nomination, the team PI must be a tenured or tenure-track faculty member.

Prize: $2,000

Nomination Process and Materials:
- The following nomination materials are required and should be uploaded as a single PDF within the InfoReady portal:
    o Nomination letter (1-2 pages) clearly describing the evidence for the clear and sustained public impact of the work.
    o Nominee's curriculum vitae (CV) or in the case of a team nomination, the CVs of all team members.
    o One letter from a community organization that has worked with the nominee or team on the project.

Innovator of the Year Awards

Award Description: One of two awards may be given each year, depending on the pool of nominees. The **Invention of the Year Award** recognizes a discovery or invention from an SDSU tenured or tenure-track faculty member innovator that led to a patent, trademark, or copyright. The **Entrepreneur of the Year Award** recognizes a tenured or tenure-track faculty member who has recently (within the past year) started a company to bring SDSU innovations and discoveries into the marketplace.

Eligibility (for both awards): Any full-time, tenured, or tenure-track faculty member at any rank who has been at SDSU for at least three years.

Prize: $2,000

Nomination Process and Materials:
- The following nomination materials are required and should be uploaded as a single PDF within the InfoReady portal:
    o Nomination letter (1-2 pages)
        ▪ For the Innovator of the Year award, the letter should clearly describe the invention and the potential impact of the invention on society, field of study, etc.
        ▪ For the Entrepreneur of the Year award, the letter should clearly describe the nominee's company as well as plans for the company's future.
    o Nominee's curriculum vitae (CV).

SDSU Imperial Valley Outstanding RSCA Award

Award Description: This award recognizes outstanding RSCA contributions from a tenured or tenure-track SDSU Imperial Valley faculty member whose work has made a significant contribution and impact to their field of study. The nominee should be recognized as a leader in their field.

Eligibility: Any full-time, tenured, or tenure track faculty member at SDSU Imperial Valley at any rank who has been at SDSU Imperial Valley for at least three years.

Prize: $2,000

Nomination Process and Materials:

- The following nomination materials are required and should be uploaded as a single PDF within the InfoReady portal:
  - o Nomination letter (1-2 pages) clearly describing the evidence and impact of the nominee's work on their field of study.
  - o Nominee's curriculum vitae (CV).

Evaluation and selection processes for all awards

- Nomination packages will be reviewed by a committee that will send award recommendations to Hala Madanat, Vice President for Research, and Innovation.
- Nominees selected for the award will be notified by March 3rd, 2023, and will be recognized during the Albert W. Johnson Research Lectureship that will be held during the spring semester.

Please contact Mark B. Reed (mreed@sdsu.edu) with any questions about these awards.