

MARTHA COOK PIPER RESEARCH PRIZE

Terms of reference and application process

This award commemorates Dr. Piper's significant contribution to the research community while Vice-President (Research) and Vice-President (Research and External Affairs) at the University of Alberta from 1993-1997. The annual award recognizes two faculty members in the early stage of their careers who enjoy a reputation for original research and show outstanding promise as researchers.

Eligibility

The Office of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) recognizes that early career faculty members have been particularly affected by COVID-19 restrictions and as a result, the eligibility period for the 2021 award has been extended by one year. Reflecting this change, nominees must be within eleven (11) years of completing a doctoral degree (or equivalent qualification). For nominees with an MD or DVM degree, the 11-year period begins after completing formal research training. To be eligible, nominees must have obtained the doctoral degree/equivalent (or completed their formal research training) on or after June 25, 2010. Nominees must also have a strong research record and demonstrate outstanding promise as a researcher.

The Office of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) will consider extending the eligibility period for individuals who have taken leave (e.g. parental, illness, compassionate care or emergency) as needed.

Two principal criteria for nominee assessment are:

1. Quality of the individual's research **and**
2. Impact of their research on the advancement of the discipline; to date and in the future.

Teaching shall not constitute part of the evaluation except for graduate teaching and supervision relevant to the nominee's research.

Selection process

The award is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research and Innovation). The committee includes the Associate Vice-Presidents (Research) and members from the University's research community who are suitably representative of the diversity that exists across the institution.

Application process

Faculties should nominate candidates keeping in mind the equity, diversity and inclusion principles in the University of Alberta [Strategic Plan for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity](#) and the [Dimensions Charter](#). Each faculty is entitled to submit one nomination.

The following information must be submitted, in order, as part of the nomination:

- Statement describing procedures followed in generating the nomination, including the EDI policies followed during selection.
- Statement of category in which nomination is to be considered and rationale for the category choice:
 - science or engineering, or
 - humanities, social sciences, law, education, and fine arts

- Statement why nominee qualifies for the award, emphasizing their contributions to and impact on the discipline. Impact statements should include both Knowledge Mobilization/Knowledge Transfer as well as Academic impacts. Include a paragraph on the nominee's contributions to equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Letter of recommendation from faculty dean.
- Summary, for multidisciplinary audience, of nominee's three most important publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions. In the summary, include the complete citation of the publication, creative work and/or scholarly contribution, and nominee's role in the publication, creative work and/or scholarly contribution. Please limit each summary to a maximum of one page. **DO NOT include copies of the publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions with the nomination package.**
- A short biography of each external assessor for the selection committee's information
- Reference letters from two external assessors in the nominee's field. **Assessors should be experts outside the University of Alberta with no close collegial or trainee link to the nominee.** Letters should address the nominee's suitability in terms of the Prize's criteria.
- Current curriculum vitae listing publication authorship, creative works and/or scholarly contributions as the authorship appears in print (i.e., for multiple-author publications, nominee's name shall appear in the correct sequence).

Letters of reference will be received by the University of Alberta in confidence. Except under limited and specific circumstances, the university will maintain the reference letters in confidence.

Deadline and submission

The deadline for nominations is **4:00 p.m., Friday June 25, 2021**. Please submit the nomination as a single PDF to Leslie Parsad at parsad@ualberta.ca.

The Office of the Vice President (Research and Innovation) [OVPRI] will review the candidate pool. If the pool is not deemed to represent the diversity of the research community at the University of Alberta, the OVPRI may choose not to make an award in that year or to seek additional nominations of excellent candidates from equity-deserving groups.

Records from this competition will be managed in accordance with the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.