

J. GORDIN KAPLAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Terms of reference and application process

The University of Alberta's most prestigious research award is named for the University's first Vice-President (Research). Two awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding work in distinct fields of research:

1. excellence in general area of humanities, social sciences, law, education and fine arts and
2. excellence in the sciences or engineering.

The award recognizes and honours faculty members:

- Whose research contributions, and impact (both academic and knowledge mobilization/translation), add significantly to our knowledge base.
- Who are recognized nationally and internationally for their scholarly accomplishments.
- Who set a standard of excellence for other University of Alberta faculty, graduate and undergraduate students and the community-at-large, as they contribute to our mission of research For the Public Good.

Selection Process

1. Each faculty 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](#).
2. The department must prepare a case in support of the nominee, which will include the following:
 - Statement describing procedures followed in making nomination.
 - Statement of the category in which nomination is to be considered and rational for the category choice.
 - Statement regarding why nominee qualifies for the award.
 - Brief description of nominee's three or four most important publications, creative works, or equivalent.
 - Statement of how this nominee's research program has contributed to equity, diversity or inclusion in the discipline, university or broader community.
 - Current curriculum vitae listing authorship of publications as the authorship appears in print (i.e., for multiple author publications, nominee's name shall appear in the correct sequence).
 - Letter of recommendation from department chair.
3. Deans will provide a detailed letter of support for the nominee, separate from the letter of transmittal.
4. Three letters are required from external assessors in the nominee's field. **Assessors should be experts with no close collegial or trainee link to the nominee from outside the University of Alberta. At least one of the letters must be from an international assessor.**
 - Letters should address the nominee's suitability in terms of the criteria for the award. The faculty should submit a short biography on each external assessor for the jury. The University of Alberta will receive letters of reference in confidence. Except under limited and specific circumstances, the university will maintain letters of reference in confidence.

5. Teaching will not be part of the evaluation except for graduate teaching and supervision relevant to the nominee's research.
6. Faculties are welcome to resubmit the name of an individual nominated before. If this is done, an updated dossier is required for each subsequent submission.
7. Each faculty shall indicate which category it would like its nomination to be considered and provide rationale for the category choice:
 - humanities, social sciences, law, education and fine arts or
 - sciences and engineering.

Application process

Prepare the dossier for the J. Gordin Kaplan Award nomination as follows:

1. The dossier **MUST** be compiled in the following order:
 - Statement of procedures followed in making nomination, including the EDI policies followed.
 - Statement of the category in which the nomination is to be considered with rationale.
 - Statement why nominee qualifies for award.
 - Letter of support from the dean.
 - Letter of recommendation from the department chair.
 - List of three or four most significant publications/creative works or equivalent (for fine arts) with brief summary of their importance.
 - Three letters from external assessors addressing nominee's suitability in terms of award criteria.
 - Statement of how the nominee's research program contributes to equity, diversity, and inclusion in the discipline, institution or broader community.
 - Copy of nominee's current curriculum vitae.
 - Other supporting documentation (reprints may be included but are not required).
2. Nominations must be submitted electronically.

Deadline and submission

The deadline for submitting nominations is **4:30 p.m., May 28, 2021**. Please submit the PDF nomination electronically to Leslie Parsad at parsad@ualberta.ca.

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 for 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.