

## 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, health 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.
- Whose contributions to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion set an example for other University Faculty, students, and the community-at-large
- 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 institution's research goals

### Selection Process

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 to seek additional nominations of excellent candidates from equity-deserving groups.

Each award category is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) or delegate. The committees include one or more Associate Vice-Presidents (Research) and members from the University's research community who are suitably representative of the diversity that exists across the institution and who conduct research in the designated award category.

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

### Application process

Candidates should keep in mind the equity, diversity and inclusion principles in the [University of Alberta Strategic Plan for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity](#), the [Dimensions Charter](#), the [Scarborough Charter](#) and the [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) when preparing their application.

Each candidate is entitled to submit one application per year. If a candidate decides to reapply, an updated dossier is required for each subsequent submission.

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

- Statement of the category in which the application is to be considered and rationale for the category choice.
- Letter of recommendation from the Dean that outlines why the applicant qualifies for the award, emphasizing their contributions to and impact on the discipline. Impact statements should include academic contributions, knowledge mobilization/knowledge transfer as well as their engagement with the community (through research focus/methodology, community outreach activities or other).

Note: Each Faculty may choose to have its own internal selection process to determine which candidate(s) will be provided with a letter of recommendation by the Dean.

- Brief one page statement of how the applicant's research program contributes to equity, diversity or inclusion in the discipline, university and broader community.
- Summary, for a multidisciplinary audience, of the applicant's three most important publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions. In the summary, include complete citation of the publication, creative work and/or scholarly contribution, and applicant's role. Please limit each summary to a maximum of one page (three pages total). **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
- Two letters are required from external assessors in the applicant's field. **Assessors should be experts with no close collegial or trainee link to the applicant from outside the University of Alberta.** Letters should address the applicant's suitability in terms of the criteria for the award. Letters of support will be received and maintained in confidence by the University of Alberta, except under limited and specific circumstances. Please request to have letters of support emailed directly to: Leslie Parsad, Coordinator, Internal Research Awards and Funding, Office of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) at [parsad@ualberta.ca](mailto:parsad@ualberta.ca).
- Current curriculum vitae listing publication authorship, creative works and/or scholarly contributions as the authorship appears in print (i.e., for multiple-author publications, applicant's name shall appear in the correct sequence).

### **Deadline and submission**

The deadline for submitting applications is **4:30 p.m. on September 29, 2023**. Please submit the application as a single PDF to Leslie Parsad at [parsad@ualberta.ca](mailto:parsad@ualberta.ca).

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