

Guidelines for the MSU Alumni Association

2024 Emerging Scholar Award

Introduction

The MSU Alumni Association Emerging Scholar Award gives special recognition for superior research, scholarly, or creative work conducted by Murray State University faculty members who are in the early phase of their careers and who show professional promise. Significant achievements associated with the nominee's work should have been realized while the nominee has held a faculty position at Murray State University. Two prizes are awarded: one in STEM areas and one in SSHA areas.

Award

Each award is for \$500, and each recipient name will be engraved on the MSU Alumni Association Emerging Scholar Award plaque located in the Murray State University Alumni Center.

Eligibility

Faculty holding a full-time tenure-track appointment and having no more than five years of academic experience in a tenure-track position are eligible for the Emerging Scholar Award.

Nominations/applications can include work performed prior to beginning at Murray State University.

Nominations

Colleagues, collaborators, departments, schools/colleges, or recognized campus organizations may nominate faculty for the award. Nominations will be made by submission of a nomination form (available on the Research Policy Committee web page, at the link below). Only one nomination is needed to place a candidate's name in nomination.

<https://forms.gle/L65ygEYeSoKgYegc8>

The **Nomination Form** includes the following information:

- Full name of nominee
- STEM or SSHA
- College/School and Department
- Nominee's current position
- Total number of years that Nominee has held a tenure-track position
- Brief justification of why the nominee should receive the award

Important Dates

- January 30, 2024: Final email reminder for nominations sent to faculty via Provost Office
- February 6, 2024: Nomination form submitted (electronically)
- February 13, 2024: Finalists for the awards will be notified
- February 26, 2024: Deadline for finalists identified by the committee to submit electronic application packages to the Research Policy Committee Chair, AJ Boston at aboston@murraystate.edu
- March 13, 2024: Votes from RPC Committee Members due for online straw poll
- March 15, 2024: Research Policy Committee Discussion to choose recipients
- March 15, 2024: Notification to Provost, and upon verification, notification to the Director of Alumni Relations
- March 15, 2024 or later: Once approval from Provost Office is received, Chair will notify all award recipients and non-selected nominees

Materials Requested from Nominees

The Research Policy Committee will screen the CVs of all nominated individuals and invite *selected* nominees to submit full application packages. These nominees will submit a full application package (electronic copy) consisting of the following, as *separate* PDF files:

- **CV.** Updated copy.
- **Research/Scholarly Activity Summary.** The summary should contain a brief description of the applicant's completed research project(s) highlighting the significance of the research or scholarly activity. The format of this section is flexible with the main limitation being length—NOT MORE THAN TEN (10) PAGES. The Research Policy Committee is composed of peer faculty members across a range of different disciplines. A successful research/scholarly activity summary will take into account that the committee members reviewing the application packages may be very familiar with research and scholarly norms within their own field, but less familiar with those of our applicants. Therefore, consider contextualizing the case for your outputs with such readers in mind.
- **Sample Reprints.** Include reprints or copies of published materials, as well as items that are in press or accepted for publication. It is not necessary to submit copies of all publications, rather submit a sample of best work.
- **Letters of Support.** The nominees should have THREE letters of support emailed directly to the Chair of the Research Policy Committee (aboston@murraystate.edu) before the February 26 deadline. All of the letters should be from individuals well acquainted with the nominee's research, qualifications and accomplishments, but may not include current students. The letters should also address the broad impact and significance of the nominee's research and be understandable to the lay reader. The committee encourages the nominees to request at least ONE of the letters from an individual external to Murray State University.

Selection of Emerging Scholars

The Research Policy Committee will review the application packages and recommend individuals to be recipients of the Emerging Scholar Award to the MSU Alumni Association and the Provost. Award decisions will place significant emphasis on any work performed while employed by Murray State University. The awards will be presented at the annual Faculty Recognition Banquet in April.