Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research & Creative Work

Overview

The Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research and Creative Work recognizes UHM faculty mentors each academic year that have shown dedicated and sustained excellence in faculty mentoring of undergraduate students in their research and creative work endeavors.

Award Eligibility

Any tenured or tenure-track UHM faculty involved in mentoring undergraduate students conducting research or creative work projects who is not a previous recipient of this award.

Award

$500/award; Up to two awards each academic year, one from a STEM discipline and one from a non-STEM discipline

Process

Call for Nominations and Nomination Guidelines

The application process for the award consists of two steps: (*i*) nominations of faculty by current and/or former (mentored within last 5 years) undergraduate student mentees; and, (*ii*) for a selected subset of nominees, a faculty application consisting of their undergraduate research/creative work mentoring record and philosophy, and two letters of support. UROP encourages UHM undergraduate students across all disciplines on campus to nominate UHM faculty who exemplify dedicated and sustained excellence in mentorship of undergraduate research and creative work.

Deadlines

Student Nomination Deadline: 5:00 p.m. on February 1 of each academic year
Faculty Application Deadline (by invitation): 5:00 p.m. on March 15 of each academic year

Nomination and Application Procedure

Any current or former (mentored within last 5 years) UHM undergraduate student is eligible to nominate a faculty mentor by submitting the **Student Nomination Form** by the February 1 deadline. UROP encourages single nominations from multiple students where possible. The award review committee will select a subset of the top student-nominated faculty (~2-3 annually in both STEM and non-STEM disciplines) by March 1 to request a complete **Faculty Application Form** by the March 15 deadline. Both nominations and applications are submitted online.

1. Student Nomination Form (Online)
   a. Details on faculty nominee (Department, Contact Information)
   b. A ~1-page statement (300-word limit) describing and assessing the faculty mentor nominee's research/creative work mentorship and its impact on the outcome of the mentee's academic and/or professional development

2. Faculty Application Form (Online)
   a. Details on faculty nominee (Department, Contact Information)
   b. A *Mentoring vita* documenting the faculty's sustained record of undergraduate research/creative work mentoring, with examples of successful student outcomes related to mentoring activities
   c. A 1-page statement outlining the faculty's philosophy on mentoring undergraduate students conducting research or creative work (300-word limit).
   d. A support letter from the faculty's Department Chair
   e. A support letter from a faculty colleague familiar with the nominee's undergraduate mentorship record

Evaluation Criteria

The review committee will consist of a minimum of three faculty reviewers from the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Council (UROC), who will consider the following evaluation factors when reviewing both the student nominations and the faculty applications:

1. Evidence of dedicated and sustained excellence in faculty mentoring of undergraduate students in research and creative work endeavors
2. Impact of research or creative work mentorship on the mentee's academic and/or professional achievements
3. Content and strength of support letters

Award Procedure

Awards will be conferred at the Mānoa Awards Ceremony, typically held at the end of April each academic year.