

## Principal's Excellence Award for Scholarship

### Program Purpose

The purpose of the University of Toronto Scarborough Principal's Excellence Award for Scholarship is to recognize the outstanding research achievements of established scholars at the University of Toronto Scarborough and is open to all full-time tenured professorial faculty with a primary appointment at UTSC. Nominees are expected to have compiled a distinguished record of nationally and internationally recognized, impactful research and scholarly activity, achieving pre-eminence in their field and/or impact beyond academia (e.g., on society, culture, policy, professional practice, the economy).

A Selection Committee chaired by the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation and composed of members of the U of T Scarborough Research Advisory Board will assess the nominations and recommend the top candidate to the Vice-President & Principal of U of T Scarborough. The Committee may decline to bestow the award in any given competition year if a suitable candidate has not been nominated.

### Award value

One award will be available in each of the following streams: A) Sciences, and B) Social Sciences & Humanities. Each award has a monetary component of \$5,000.

### Guidelines

1. **Eligibility:** Nominees should be UTSC tenured faculty members, with at least 15 years of full time professorial academic experience. The nominees should be researchers with well-established careers, who have demonstrated exceptional research achievement, and are pre-eminent in their field(s) of knowledge and/or have had an impact beyond academia.
2. **Term:** The award period is from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. **Nomination Process:** Nominations are to be submitted by Department Chairs or Centre Directors, who may only submit one nomination per year. Chairs and Directors cannot be nominated for the Principal's Excellence Award for Scholarship during their tenure in these roles. In accordance with the University's policies on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), nominators are encouraged to consider individuals from underrepresented groups. Self-nominations are not accepted.
4. **Nomination Materials:** Complete nomination dossier includes:
  - **Nomination letter (2 pages maximum):** Signed by the Chair or Director, written in clear, non-specialist language for an interdisciplinary review committee, and avoiding verbatim replications of letters of reference for career promotion, the nomination letter needs to:
    - detail the reasons for the nomination
    - contextualize the impact of the nominee's research achievements and funding record, as well as their potential impact, to national and international disciplinary norms of excellence

- justify the choice of referees
  - address the Selection Criteria detailed below (include impact metrics, if applicable)
  - identify any special circumstances that may have affected a nominee's productivity (e.g., parental leaves) and highlight any EDI considerations
  - Two letters of support (2 pages maximum each): Signed by internationally recognized scholars in the nominee's field and external to the University of Toronto, the letters of support should:
    - address the national and international stature of the nominee, including external indicators if possible
    - contextualize and describe the impact of the nominee's research contributions
  - Nominee's current Curriculum Vitae, clearly indicating the intellectual and leadership role played by the nominee in the generation of their research contributions. If applicable, please include an explanation of any special circumstances that may have affected the nominee's productivity (e.g., parental leave) and highlight any EDI considerations to allow for a fair assessment of their research career
5. Submission: There is one submission deadline per academic year: February 1<sup>st</sup> (or the next business day if that date falls on a weekend or holiday). Nomination dossiers should be submitted electronically as a single PDF document to the Office of the Vice-Principal, Research and Innovation at [researchoffice.uts@utoronto.ca](mailto:researchoffice.uts@utoronto.ca). Questions may be sent to the same email address with the Subject "Principal's Excellence Award for Scholarship". Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.
6. Selection Criteria:
- Research achievements and contributions to the advancement of their research field(s)
  - Research recognition and pre-eminence of the nominee (e.g., awards, honors)
  - Research publications and training of highly qualified personnel (HQP)
  - Research impact beyond academia (e.g., on community, society and culture, policy, professional practice, the economy)
7. Reporting and Financial Requirements: A brief report outlining the awardee's research achievements during the tenure of the award is requested to be submitted to the OVPRI within three months after the end of the grant period. Awarded funds must be spent within the award period, with a possible one-year extension. The awarded funds are available to be used for any of the following:
- For costs related to research, in accordance with the University of Toronto financial guidelines (<https://finance.utoronto.ca/policies/>)
  - For personal purposes (and would therefore be taxed)
  - As a donation to UTSC (e.g., for a student fellowship/scholarship in the awardee's name, to support one of the UTSC OVPRI's internal funding initiatives)
8. Limitations to Nominations: Recipients of the Principal's Excellence Award for Scholarship cannot be nominated for the same award.

9. Other Conditions: Awardees will deliver a public lecture arranged by the Office of the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation.