

Principal's Impact Award

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Principal's Impact Award is to support the integration of UTSC's engagement with the broader society by identifying and celebrating outstanding examples of scholarship that have a positive impact on the inclusion and empowerment of external stakeholders. The award is open to all research- or teaching-stream faculty members, and all Librarians III or Librarians IV, who have held a full-time primary appointment at UTSC for at least one year, and who have demonstrated excellence in impactful scholarship beyond academia. This award recognizes research scholarship and knowledge mobilization achievements and or/ value-added for the partner organization(s). The impacts of the engaged scholarship activities may include social and economic development, environmental sustainability, improved educational or health systems, and social equity.

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 annually available. The award has a monetary component of \$5,000.

Guidelines

1. Eligibility: Nominees should have been full-time research- or teaching-stream faculty members, or full-time Librarians III or Librarians IV, with a primary appointment at UTSC for at least one year, and should have demonstrated excellence in impactful scholarship within and, more importantly, beyond academia (e.g., on communities, society, culture, policy, professional practice, the economy).
2. Term: The award period is from July 1st to June 30th.
3. Nomination Process: Nominations for this award may be submitted by UTSC's Department Chairs or Center Directors, and/or other academic colleagues, partners, including non-for-profit organizations, industry, and government representatives. In accordance with the University's policies on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), nominators are encouraged to consider individuals from underrepresented groups. Self-nominations will be accepted.
4. Nomination Materials: Complete nomination dossier includes:
 - Nomination letter (2 pages maximum): Written in clear, non-specialist language the nomination letter needs to:
 - detail the reasons for the nomination
 - describe and contextualize the impact on the community or society of the research and knowledge-mobilization achievements carried out by the nominee

- justify the choice of referees
 - address the Selection Criteria detailed below (include impact metrics if applicable)
 - Two (2) Letters of Support (2 pages maximum each): One letter will be signed by a recognized scholar in the nominee's field of specialization, and the other letter will be signed by a partner (e.g., community leader, industry collaborator, government representative). Both referees will be external to the University of Toronto and at arm's length from the nominee. The letters of support need to:
 - describe and contextualize the specific impact of the nominees' research and knowledge mobilization activities in their community/area of expertise
 - speak to the Selection Criteria stated below
 - provide external indicators, if available (e.g., metrics, recognitions)
 - Nominee's current Curriculum Vitae, highlighting research contributions and knowledge mobilization activities related to societal outcomes, such as community development, economic development, environmental sustainability, improved educational and health systems, and social equity. Indicate the role played by the nominee in the generation of research contributions (i.e., intellectual participation and leadership). If applicable, detail any circumstances that have affected the nominee's productivity (e.g., parental leave) and highlight any EDI considerations.
 - Supplemental materials (optional), including other evidence of outstanding outreach impact and engaged scholarship, such as testimonials, media articles, etc.
5. Submission: There is one submission deadline per academic year: February 1st (or the next business day if February 1st 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.utscc@utoronto.ca. Questions may be sent to the same email address with the Subject "Principal's Impact Award". Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.
6. Selection Criteria:
- Excellence in research scholarship and knowledge mobilization achievements
 - Successful co-creation of knowledge with external partner organizations and community members
 - Impact and/or value-added to the partner organization(s) or other target audience(s)
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 2 (two) months after the end of the award 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. **Nomination Frequency:** Recipients of the award can be re-nominated after 36 (thirty-six) months of their previous nomination.
9. **Other Conditions:** Awardees will deliver a public lecture arranged by the Office of the Vice-Principal Research and Innovation.