



Cumming Research Award

Terms of Reference

Description: This is an award for overall research achievement within the Cumming School of Medicine. It is anticipated that this would be an award for the top 1 per cent of our faculty and represent an acknowledgement of outstanding success over many years. Achievement could be from any of the areas of research but the impact on the school, community or discipline must be outstanding and clearly recognized. The award is accompanied by a \$30,000/annum salary stipend and the recipient can call themselves a Cumming Scholar. The award would be for a 5-year term. This is not renewable.

Process: Individuals would receive this award at the discretion of the Dean, Cumming School of Medicine and the Dean will be advised by an external assessment committee of internationally recognized senior academic leaders (n=4). The assessors would have expertise across the spectrum of research. Nominations for this award would be made by either Department Heads, Institute Directors or (DEC). Self nominations will not be accepted. There will not be a quota of positions, the award is not required to be offered on a yearly basis and the intent is to limit this award in number in keeping with the prestige that it offers.

Faculty who already hold a Canada Research Chair (CRC) would not be eligible. At the completion of the CRC terms, eligibility would be restored.

The nomination package will consist of a single letter of recommendation from the individuals listed above and an up-to-date copy of the CV of the applicant.

The deadline for submission will be April 30. Given the fact that at a steady state there will only be about 5 awards held, nominators should vet potential applications with a member of DEC to determine suitability of the application.

Process:

1. Nominations to be received by the Dean.
2. Assessment committee to be approached by DEC (n=4).
3. Assessment committee to receive the nomination package for all of the applicants (letter and CV). This will be done electronically.
4. Ranking of candidates by the individual committee members based on impact related to a) sustained level of accomplishment, b) national/international leader in their field, c) impact to the university or broader health-care community, d) quality of the letter and CV. An optional scoring grid of 10 points for each category could be utilized to help with rankings. In general, there would be one nominee selected annually, but a second candidate could be chosen based on the recommendation of the assessment committee.
5. Committee to have one virtual meeting to provide a consensus rank of the top five candidates and recommendation to the Dean for selection of the top 1-2 candidates.
6. Dean to seek input from DEC and the Priorities and Planning Committee (PPC) if further deliberation required).
7. Individuals with a conflict of interest to be recused from decision making on DEC or PPC.
8. Recipient, letter writers and Department Heads for all applicants to be informed as close as possible to June 30th.