

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Awards for Distinction in Research

- a) **Distinction in Research, Creativity or Scholarship**
- b) **Distinction in Social Justice Research**

These awards have been created in order to celebrate and honour distinction in research in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies and, with that, to recognize the strengths of the Faculty's research profile and reputation with the following specific objectives in view:

- To recognize and promote distinction in research, scholarship and/or creativity among LA&PS faculty members
- To enhance the prominence and reputation of LA&PS as a national leader in research in the social sciences, humanities, and liberal professional studies
- To recognize and promote excellent research practices that advance knowledge engagement with the wider community
- To recognize the advancement of social justice through research engagement

Rationale:

The Committee on Research Policy and Planning propose new research awards to recognize and promote research excellence in the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies. Drawing on earlier discussions that arose out of the research mandate of the Faculty's Strategic Plan, we believe this new set of awards promotes LA&PS' research priorities in significant ways. These awards will promote the integral relationship between research/scholarship/creativity and teaching as well as foster greater student and broader community engagement through recognition and dissemination of excellent research/scholarly/creative practices.

Deadline for Submission of Nomination Packages:

May 1st of the award year.

When the deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or statutory holiday applications will be accepted on the next working day.

Purpose & Criteria

The selection criteria for each award are as follows:

a) LA&PS Award for Distinction in Research, Creativity or Scholarship

Up to 2 awards will be offered per calendar year in each category (Emerging, Established Researcher).

Purpose:

This award recognizes research distinction in one's academic career that goes significantly beyond disciplinary expectations (as evidenced by the standards of the nominee's discipline) in the demonstration of excellence in a body of research, scholarly and/or creative works.

Criteria:

- Evidence of outstanding achievement in research, scholarly and/or creative activity in the past five calendar years, at least one year of which should be within the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
- Evidence of academic, social or cultural significance and impact of the work
- Demonstrated commitment to inspiring and engaging undergraduate and/or graduate students in research, scholarly and/or creative activities

Eligibility:

Nominations are open to all tenured, tenure-stream and contract faculty (including CLAs and CUPE contract faculty*) with the exception of Distinguished Research Professors, Canada Research Chairs and York Research Chairs. Retired YUFA faculty members from LA&PS who are eligible to teach will also be considered. Previous award winners are not eligible to apply.

The categories of eligibility are as follows:

1. Emerging Researcher (up to the 10th year post PhD)
2. Established Researcher (10 or more years post PhD)

File Preparation:

Nominators are required to compile a nomination package that contains:

- 2-page nomination letter outlining expertise, how the candidate meets the criteria for distinction (clear description of the candidate's contribution to research and demonstrated commitment to inspiring and engaging student research, scholarly, and/or creative activities during the five calendar years prior to the nomination deadline). Nominators will indicate the nominee's area: research, creativity, or scholarship.
- Curriculum vitae (max 30 pages) highlighting the candidate's contribution to research in the last five years
- Two letters of Support (max 3 pages each). Referees may be internal or external to the University. All referees must be knowledgeable about the applicant's area of expertise and have had no significant prior professional involvement or significant personal relationship with the candidate.

* CLA and CUPE contract faculty recipients must confirm teaching appointments for the academic year in which they apply by the application deadline.

- Units are encouraged to put forth nominations as defined by their own process (eg. research committees, awards committees).

b) LA&PS Award in Social Justice Research

One award will be offered every other calendar year.

Purpose:

This award recognizes distinction in one's academic career that not only exceeds disciplinary expectations but also demonstrates significant contribution to the advancement of the principles and practices of social justice in any of its various forms of expression through research, scholarly and/or creative activity and engagement.

Criteria:

- Evidence of significant and outstanding achievement in promoting social justice through one's research, scholarly and/or creative works
- Demonstrated impact of one's body of research on a community, region or group in Canada or the world
- Demonstrated commitment to inspiring and engaging undergraduate and/or graduate students in relevant social justice research, scholarly and/or creative activities.
- Willingness to present a major public lecture

Eligibility:

Nominations are open to all tenured, tenure-stream and contract faculty (including CLAs and CUPE contract faculty **, Distinguished Research Professors and Canada Research Chairs). Retired YUFA faculty members from LA&PS who are eligible to teach will also be considered. An individual can only receive the award once.

File Preparation:

Nominators are required to compile a nomination package that contains:

- 2-page nomination letter outlining the expertise of the candidate and, specifically, how the candidate meets the criteria for an award for distinction in social justice (see Criteria).
- Curriculum vitae (max 30 pages).
- Three letters of Support (max 3 pages each), one of which must be from a community partner. Referees may be internal or external to the University. All referees must be knowledgeable about the applicant's area of expertise and specific contributions to promoting social justice through research. All referees must have had no significant prior professional involvement or significant personal relationship with the candidate.
- Units are encouraged to put forth nominations as defined by their own process (eg. research committees, awards committees).

Terms of Reference

1. No self-nominations are permitted. Nominations must be compiled by the nominator, and then submitted electronically to the Secretary to the Committee on Research Policy and Planning. Note: Nominators must request the permission of the nominees before a package can be submitted. The CVs of nominees can only be shared with the adjudication committee if the nominees have granted the nominators written permission to place them in the nomination packages.

** CLA and CUPE contract faculty recipients must confirm teaching appointments for the academic year in which they apply by the application deadline.

2. The Awards and Celebrations Sub-Committee of the CRPP will adjudicate and make recommendations to the Dean.
3. Normally, the Awards will be presented at the October meeting of the Faculty Council. All recipients will be invited to a reception to be held at the October meeting of the Faculty Council yearly.
4. Awardees willingness to collaborate with the Committee on Research Policy and Planning to publicize information about their research practices to the LA&PS community through a workshop, presentation, interview, video, publication or other appropriate means.

Adjudication Committee for the Awards

The Committee on Research Policy and Planning will appoint members to the Adjudication Committee who will recommend candidates to the Dean based on the following:

1. Five faculty members with at least one from each of the professional, humanities, and social sciences Departments/Schools elected annually by and from the Committee on Research Policy and Planning
2. Associate Dean, Research (non-voting)
3. One Research Officer (non-voting)
4. Secretary to the Committee on Research Policy and Planning (non-voting)

Recognition

Recipients of the various awards of the LA&PS Awards for Distinction in Research will be recognized in the following way:

- All awards announced and awarded by the Dean at Faculty Council.
- Awardees will be promoted on the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies website and other media sites.
- A Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies Research Award Plaque will be created and placed in a prominent place, with awardees names added annually.
- The Dean will further acknowledge all nominees who demonstrated excellence in research.
- Each recipient of the Award for Distinction in Research, Creativity or Scholarship will be granted up to \$2000, to be spent within two years of receipt of the award, for the purpose of attending an academic conference at which she or he disseminates her or his research.
- The recipient of the Award in Social Justice Research will be granted up to \$2000, to be spent within two years of receipt of the award, for the purpose of disseminating her or his research at an academic conference or of funding a project which involves community partners.