Terms of Reference | 2019 REACH Research Awards

General information
The REACH Awards, created in 2017, combine the University of Victoria’s campus-wide teaching and research awards into a single celebration of excellence. The research awards portion, formerly the Craigdarroch Research Awards, include five categories: career achievement, research excellence, knowledge mobilization, artistic expression and research partnerships.

Deadline for nominations is Thursday, January 31, 2019. Please submit nomination documents as separate PDFs to the Awards Facilitator at awardfac@uvic.ca.

Nominators and referees should write such that a person outside the nominee’s area of expertise can understand the nominee’s achievements.

Nominators, please maintain the confidentiality of nominations. Do not disclose nominations to anyone other than the referees and nominee.

Nominations will remain active for three years. Nominations will be considered in years two and three if the nominator sends an updated curriculum vitae for the nominee before the nomination deadline. An updated nomination statement and nomination form with new referees is optional.

REACH Silver Medal for Research Excellence
A silver medal and $1,000 research grant will be awarded for demonstrated excellence in research or creative activity, including artistic expression. The award honours faculty not more than 20 years from conferral of their final academic credential.

Eligibility:
Faculty members not more than 20 years from the conferral of their final academic credential.

Nomination Components:
- A statement of nomination signed by two UVic faculty members.
- A UVic CV of up to thirty pages in length (must include details of graduate supervision, and training and mentoring of PDFs, research associates and others).
- A completed nomination form that includes the names and contact information of two external referees and one internal referee. Referees can be individuals who have collaborated with the nominee, but they must disclose the nature of their relationship with the nominee and comment on any possible conflict of interest. Nominators should
contact referees before submitting the nomination to establish their willingness to write
and submit a letter of support approximately two weeks after the nomination deadline. The selection committee will contact referees and ask each to include a brief biography with his or her letter of support.

Selection Committee
The REACH Research Awards selection committee consists of five members:

- The Vice-President Research (Chair)
- A Fellow from the Royal Society of Canada
- An emeritus faculty member approved by the Senate Committee on Agenda and Governance on recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee
- A previous Gold Medal Award winner appointed by the President
- A community member appointed by the President

With the exception of the Vice-President Research, committee members shall serve for three years, with one third of the committee being replaced each year after the initial three years. Sitting members of the committee shall not be eligible to make nominations or provide references.

Selection Guidelines
The selection committee interprets "research" as the advancement of knowledge through the intentional process of study, discovery, innovation and creative expression.

The committee will consider differences among nominees’ achievements, including the various outputs and outcomes in their respective scientific, artistic and scholarly disciplines. It may confidentially consult with experts in these disciplines. Moreover, it may elect to move a nominee to another award category.

The committee may decide not to make the full number of awards in any year depending on the quality and/or number of nominations available. It also reserves the right to make joint awards and/or to confer two awards in a category.

The Committee holds its discussions and deliberations in camera.

Recognition
Recipients will receive their award at the annual REACH Awards ceremony. The awards will be publicized by UVic Communications + Marketing.