



Research Excellence Award

2026-27 Nomination Information and Forms

Nomination Deadline: **December 7, 2026, 4:00 pm**

Submit completed nomination package electronically to
UFVSecretariat@ufv.ca.

Research Excellence Award

2026-27 Nomination Information & Forms

Every year, the University of the Fraser Valley recognizes individuals for excellent research, which is implicit in the mission statement for UFV.

ELIGIBLE UFV NOMINATORS

-  B Type faculty after probation period
-  Sessional faculty with equivalent of two years of teaching (accumulation of 14 sections)
-  Staff*
-  Students enrolled in at least one UFV course
-  Alumni
-  University officers*

Nominations are not made by, or letters of support provided by, any member of the Research Excellence Award selection committee.

*For definitions, refer to the Senate Bylaws, p. 10.

ELIGIBLE NOMINEES

Eligible nominees must **currently** hold one of the following positions:

-  B Type faculty after probation period.
-  Sessional faculty with equivalent of two years of teaching (accumulation of 14 sections).

Note the following:

- a. Winners can be nominated again five years following receipt of the award.
- b. Nominees who are unsuccessful in their first year of nomination are considered as candidates for the research excellence award for a second year. Nominators are invited to:
 - Let the nomination stand and provide relevant updates to meet required documentation; or,
 - withdraw the nomination upon the nominee's request.
- If the nominators are not available, the Secretariat office contacts nominees to determine if they would like to have their nomination stand for another year. Nominees who are unsuccessful in both first and second years of nomination need to be re-nominated to be considered.

AWARD RECOGNITION

The award recipient receives the award during an appropriate university event designated for award recipients. The award will include:

- A plaque with the award recipient's name and the year of the award;
- a framed certificate;

- \$1,000 to be used for professional development or research as determined by the award recipient, who the University Secretariat office contacts to discuss options.

NOMINATION PACKAGE

The nomination package consists of all of the following:

1. A letter of nomination outlining how the nominee meets the criteria for the Research Excellence Award (**maximum 1,000 words**):
 - a. The nominator is responsible for describing the nominee's work in relation to his or her particular discipline in language which the multidisciplinary committee adjudicating this award can comprehend.
 - b. This letter lays out the broader research/creative program of the nominee over the previous five years.
 - c. It also highlights any outstanding creative or research achievement[s] in that same period. Nominators provide a description of the nominee's research / creative endeavor, emphasizing how it meets the four criteria and related descriptive attributes, as outlined in the [Evaluation Criteria](#). The researcher's role in any joint/multi-disciplinary projects are clearly outlined.
2. A nominator form, signed by the nominator, indicating their eligibility type.
3. Exactly five letters of support are included (**500 words maximum**). The nominator is responsible for soliciting letters of support from inside and outside the UFV community. The nominee may suggest a list of colleagues from whom it would be suitable to solicit letters of support:
 - a. Two letters from recognized scholars (from outside UFV) specializing in a similar field of research/creative endeavour address the quality and significance of the nominee's work in the field.
 - b. Three additional letters can be from recognized scholars but may also come from non-academic sources who have a connection to, and comprehension of, the research/creative activity being nominated (i.e. government agencies, industry, community partners), or a former/current student who has experienced the nominees' incorporation of research into the classroom.
 - c. Nominators do not submit a letter of support. They are asked to advise support letter writers to address one or more of the selection criteria and to provide them with the criteria.
4. Instructions for nominators and letter writers:
 - The committee only considers information included in the nomination package. Therefore, regarding impact, the committee needs to understand how specific outputs (e.g. publications, policy/community-relevant reports) or forms of mentorship have been received, used by, and/or changed the research community or non-academic sectors. Writers speak to overall impact and highlight no more than the 3 most impactful works.
 - If relevant, explain if/how the nominee has shown leadership in any of these domains.
 - Consider "the value and impact of all research outputs (including datasets and software) in addition to research publications and consider a broad range of impact measures including qualitative indicators of research impact, such as influence on policy and practice" (DORA, 2025).
5. A full and current curriculum vitae of the nominee, highlighting their research/creative productivity over the previous five years. Also note details for grants/outputs within the last 5 years, including dollar values, whether determined through a competitive process and the nominee's role (e.g. Principal Investigator, co-PI, or collaborator).
6. A consent form signed by the nominee agreeing to be nominated.

CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF AWARD RECIPIENT

Candidates are evaluated on the following four criteria. These are baseline expectations which the award recipient must meet.

Emphasis is placed on work accomplished as a member of the UFV community, but achievements within the past five years that were achieved elsewhere are considered. Nominees' research/creative endeavours are assessed based on the following four criteria, relative to the discipline.

- **Originality/Innovation**
- **Academic Impact**
- **UFV/Community Impact /Influence**
- **Mentorship/Interface of Research and Teaching**

The following are descriptive attributes of the main criteria:

1. Originality/Innovation

- Uniqueness or transformative nature of work
- Patents or monetary gains produced from work
- Awards, recognition from work
- Initiation of new programs

2. Academic Impact/Influence within the Discipline

- Reception of work among peers within researcher's discipline (reviews, stature of journals in which work was published, awards, etc.)
- Profile of outputs (journal rankings, etc.)
- Record in securing funding from external sources
- Numbers of citations from work
- Membership in discipline-specific groups
- Reviews of discipline-specific works
- Breadth of outputs including books, reports, datasets, code, tools

3. UFV/Community Impact/Influence/Scope of Research/Creative Activity

- Impact/significance of the work for the UFV community, stakeholder groups, institutional profile, community at large, including Indigenization and Internationalization, etc.
- Public demonstrations, showings, lectures, presentations of work
- Utility/use of research/creative outputs to community groups
- Securing internal funding from UFV
- Membership in community/national/international groups
- Press statements regarding work
- Policy recommendations, guidelines, standards, use of results by stakeholders
- Societal outcomes such as health concerns, cultural change
- Community engagement and partnership development

4. Mentorship/Interface of Research and Teaching

- Role and/or training for students in relation to work or while conducting work in research
- Role for students in conduct of faculty research
- Incorporation of creativity/research achievement/ knowledge of research into the learning environment and pedagogy
- Evidence of student research accomplishments and testimonials

- Impacts on curriculum or other training programs

ADMINISTRATION OF THE AWARD

The UFV Research Excellence Award selection committee is a subcommittee of the Senate Research Committee and is responsible for receiving nominations and recommending a recipient for the award. The recommendation is approved by the Senate Awards and Honours Committee, who makes the final recommendation to Senate.

PROCEDURE TIMELINES

Nomination information and procedures are available on the [Research Excellence Award web page](#). The nomination package must be submitted electronically by **December 7, 2026, 4:00 pm** to UFVSecretariat@ufv.ca, following the format requirements outlined in the [Nomination Package](#) section.