

Call for Nominations!

Innovator of the Year Research Award

The CFAES Office for Research and Graduate Education are requesting nominations for the CFAES Innovator of the Year Research Award. The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) translates cutting edge research to stakeholders across the state. By engaging with our stakeholders, we provide research, technology, and knowledge to support safe, sustainable, and viable agricultural practices across Ohio and the world. This important work could not be accomplished without outstanding researchers working on projects across the college.

Awardees are selected based on their research accomplishments and impact made during the five-year period prior to the nomination (2019-2023, inclusive). Nominees with less than 5 years of service at The Ohio State University may include research accomplishments from previous institutions obtained during the 5-year period. Documentation of all accomplishments should follow the attached guidelines and format.

Past award recipients from any category in the previous five years (2019-2023) are not eligible for this year's awards. Past award winners can be found at: <https://research.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/research/annual-research-awards>

- **Innovator of the Year Award**

The Innovator of the Year Award is intended to recognize CFAES researchers who are actively engaged with [the OSU Office on Innovation and Economic Development](#) to promote technology commercialization of university intellectual property through invention disclosures filed, patents applied for and/or received, technologies licensed, or spinoff companies formed.

Nominated faculty should have a regionally, nationally, or internationally recognized invention, methodology, product, service, program, or process that has had a significant impact on the scientific discipline, businesses, communities, and industries.

One award will be given each year to an individual or team. The award consists of a plaque and a \$1,000 cash prize to each team member (not to exceed \$5,000 for the team), and \$3,000 to an operating expense account of the awardee for one year only, (not to exceed \$6,000 total across all team members in the case of a team award).



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Nomination Criteria:**I. Eligibility**

- a. All CFAES appointed researchers with the rank Instructor, Assistant, Associate, Full Professor, Research Scientist, who have an active sponsored projects portfolio.
- b. The nominee must be a primary inventor or creator of an OSU technology disclosure for which a significant research effort conducted at OSU contributed to the advancement of knowledge in the field.
- c. Past award recipients from any category in the previous five years (2019-2023) are not eligible for this year's awards.
- d. Only one nominee per TIU.

II. Nomination Package Guidelines

Please follow the guidelines carefully so the Awards Committee can make objective evaluations. Initiation of nominations within departments are the responsibility of the department awards committee or another appropriate committee as designated by the Chair. Past award recipients from any category in the previous five years (2018-2022) are not eligible for this year's awards.

1. **Cover Sheet**-Submit a fully prepared cover sheet which includes the names of both the nominee and the department chairperson. It is the department chair's role to ensure that the nomination package is in strict accordance with the guidelines given here. (Please see Appendix A)
 2. **Summary Evaluation Letter**-This should be prepared and submitted by the department chair. The Summary Evaluation Letter must be on college or department letterhead, and be no more than two pages, single spaced. See Appendix B for guidelines in completing the Summary Evaluation Letter.
 3. **Record of Research**- All nominees must present a **five-year** (January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2023) record of research accomplishments **Do not list accomplishments outside this period.** (Please see Appendix C).
- *Each nomination should be submitted electronically as a single PDF document on or **before 5:00 PM on November 30, 2023** and contain the materials listed below to be considered complete. Nominations with missing documents will not be considered for awards.*
 - *Nomination packets are limited to **20 pages**.*

Please note the following important information:

- Recommendation letters from internal or external evaluators **should not be sought nor included** in the nomination package.
- Any submission **not** adhering to the guidelines and requested format **will not be evaluated**.

III. Selection Committee:

A standing committee of faculty with broad disciplinary representation will be appointed by the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education. The Associate Dean will select the chair of the committee. The Awards Committee is responsible for reviewing nominees and selecting the winners. The target date for a final announcement of the awards is February 2024.

IV. Award Presentation

Awards announcements will be made at the college's award ceremony that has followed the Dean's State of the College address typically taking place on April 5, 2024.

V. Submit Nominations

Submit nomination via Qualtrics. The Qualtrics nomination portal will remain mostly unchanged from last year and is available on the CFAES Faculty and Staff Affairs website:

<https://cfaesfacultyandstaff.osu.edu/>

You can preview the Qualtrics form here:

https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/preview/SV_cZI42hqnarEynvU?Q_CHL=preview&Q_SurveyVersionID=current.

Appendix A.**Nomination Cover Page****Innovator of the Year Research Award**

Name of Nominee(s), Title, Department

Name of Invention(s)

Nominator/Title of Nominator

Executive Summary Provide a summary of the achievement that can be used as the awards citation if the nomination is successful.

Appendix B. Summary Evaluation Letter

Guidelines for Summary Evaluation Letter of Research Program and Contribution

Nominators of candidates are requested to provide an evaluative summary of the candidate's research accomplishments during the award period. This statement is limited to **two pages, single spaced**, and must be prepared and submitted by the department chair. The principal objective of the summary evaluation is to interpret and frame the significance of the nominee's research and impact. The selection committee is comprised of CFAES researchers from different disciplines.

Provide substantive examples of the value of the nominee's research contributions and any other context necessary for the committee to understand the nominee's impact on the discipline or beyond. Mere complimentary statements are of little value and discouraged.

The following guidelines should be followed in writing this summary statement.

- Briefly summarize the major focus areas and impact of the candidate's research.
- Briefly describe the nominee's appointment regarding the percent of Teaching, Research, and Extension appointments.
- Describe the uniqueness of the innovation and what makes this innovation particularly notable.
- Describe the nominee's research and potential or known scientific or economic impacts of their discovery/technology.
- List any other notable research activity you feel is pertinent within the five-year window. These activities might include journal editorship; journal reviewer; research committee membership or leadership; membership in research organizations or honorary societies; advisory or research panels such as for NSF, EPA, etc.; significant software development; patents, and awards or prizes.
- Provide a summary statement regarding the nominee's demonstrated excellence in this stage of their career. Provide information on how their research has impacted agriculture in terms of new innovations and products.

Appendix C. Record of Research (Not included in the summary statement)

- A one-page description of the innovation.
- Provide a summary of relevant commercialization activities, such as invention disclosures, patents (applied for and/or awarded), licenses generated, companies formed, or other evidence of intellectual property. (Include: Inventor(s), Title, Application Filing Date, Issue Date)
- Provide a summary of the candidate's research grant/contract activity over the five-year period and evaluate the relative competitiveness and funding amount of these awards within the nominee's discipline. Research contracts which have been agreed to in principle but have not been contractually formalized are not to be listed. A table can be submitted for this section.
 - Indicate clearly is the nominee is the lead PI/PD, or Co-PI on the project.
 - Project Title
 - Start-End Date
 - Sponsor
 - Indicate sponsor type (federal, state, industry, local)
 - Total \$\$ amount of award AND the total % of the award to the nominee
 - OSP Project Number