

About the Award

The Brescia University College *Award for Excellence in Research* was established in 2014 by the Office of the Academic Dean to recognize the outstanding research and scholarly accomplishments of a Brescia faculty member. The recipient of the *Award for Excellence in Research* is awarded a plaque and bestowed the following title for the award year: *Brescia Excellence in Research Professor*. The recipient of the award will be honoured at the Brescia Baccalaureate Ceremony in June and will present a talk on their research in the coming year. In a given year, one award recipient will be so honored, or no award may be granted, based on the decision of the Award Selection Committee (Research and Scholarship Committee).

Eligibility

Nominees must have a full-time academic appointment with tenure at Brescia, at the rank of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Full Professor and will have had at least five (5) years of teaching and research experience at Brescia, Western or any of the affiliated colleges. Sabbatical studies conducted at other institutions will be counted toward this total. Recipients may only receive the award once within a five (5) year period.

Criteria

In keeping with the spirit of Brescia's Strategic Plan for research and scholarly activity, the *Award for Excellence in Research* is focused on the strength and impact of the nominee's research in her/his discipline and on the broader research community across Canada and internationally.

Factors relating to research excellence can be assessed in many different ways and comparisons between scholars and their respective disciplines are not always desirable. Nominators will therefore be asked to demonstrate the impact of the nominee's research and scholarship through the measures that are most widely accepted in their discipline and field of research. Nominators should clearly identify how the nominee's research has addressed key questions or problems in their area of expertise and how the nominee's research, scholarly or creative contributions have influenced their academic field and the larger research community. Those individuals who provide letters of support are encouraged to make specific reference to these factors.

Comprehensive criteria used in judging nominees include:

- National and international recognition of excellence and impact of the nominee's research on the School, the College, and society as a whole, over the past five (5) years;
- Originality, innovation, and impact of the research and scholarly work;
- Contributions to specific or broader fields of knowledge;
- Academic impact and influence within the discipline; and
- Mentorship (intersection of teaching and research) and service contributions.

Nomination Procedure

Nominations for the *Award for Excellence in Research* may be initiated by any full-time or contract faculty member, alumnae, or staff member from Brescia University College. Self-nominations are permitted. Faculty members serving on the Award Selection Committee may not nominate or be nominated for the award while serving on the selection committee.

Call for Nominations

1. The Office of the Academic Dean will issue a call for nominations in **January** of each year to all members of the Brescia University College (faculty, staff, and alumnae) notifying them of the nomination procedures. A call for nominations will also be posted on the Brescia website and/or other publications/social media platforms.
2. Nominations must be submitted in the form of a one-page letter, signed by the nominator. In the case where there is more than one nominator, please submit a one-page, *co-signed* letter of nomination.
3. Nominators must seek the permission of the nominee in writing before submitting the nomination.
4. Nominations are to be emailed (MS Word or PDF) to bucdean@uwo.ca by 4:00pm on **February 28, 2022**.

Dossier Preparation

The research dossier is the primary means of deciding who will be selected as the recipient of the *Award for Excellence in Research*. Preparation of the dossier is the responsibility of the nominator (including obtaining letters of support). Completed dossiers must be submitted in PDF format to the Office of the Academic Dean (bucdean@uwo.ca) by **April 1st**. The following items are to be included in the dossier (word counts are based on Arial, 11 pt., single spaced text):

1. The original, one-page letter of nomination;
2. A nomination summary that clearly outlines and supports the importance of the nominee's accomplishments and contributions to their field of research (max 1000 words). This summary can be written by the nominee, or co-created with the nominator, in order to highlight the nominee's most significant contributions to the field;
3. A recommendation letter signed by the nominee's School Chair showing support from the nominee's School for the nomination (max 800 words). *Note: if a nominee is currently a School Chair, this requirement will be waived.*
4. A complete and current curriculum vitae (CV) of the nominee;

5. Up to four (4) letters of support, one (1) of which must come from an internal colleague from Brescia, Western and/or the affiliated colleges. The remaining letters must come from external scholars who specialise in similar areas of research and who can confidently speak to the quality and significance of the nominee's work in the field. Letters of support should highlight the nominee's work over the past five (5) years including outstanding achievements, service, or successful collaborations during that time period. The nominee may suggest to the nominator a list of colleagues and partners from whom to solicit the letters of support; and
6. Any awards, press releases or media coverage related to the nominee's research.

Selection Procedure

1. The dossiers are held in confidence for review by the Research and Scholarship Committee. If there is a conflict of interest among any of the members of the committee, those members are asked to recuse themselves from their duties for that award year.
2. The Committee will meet to select a recipient based on a criteria-driven evaluation process. The committee may ask the nominator or someone other than the nominator for additional information if required to gain clarification on an item in the dossier. In a given year, one award recipient will be so honored, or no award may be granted, based on the decision of the committee.
3. The name of the award recipient will be announced **in early May**. The *Award for Excellence in Research* will be presented to the recipient at the Brescia Baccalaureate Ceremony in June. The recipient of the award will be invited by the Office of the Academic Dean to present a talk on their research in the coming year.
4. Files of nominees of one (1) year, with their permission, may be held over for consideration in the following year. The Award Selection Committee may request these nominees to provide current information to complete their dossiers. Files will only be held for a maximum of one (1) year after which the nominator must submit a new dossier.