Eminent Scholar Award

Sponsored by
Texas A&M University and the TAMU Women Former Students' Network

A Shared Mission
- Texas A&M University is dedicated to the discovery, development, communication, and application of knowledge in a wide range of academic and professional fields. It welcomes and seeks to serve persons of all racial, ethnic, and geographic groups as it addresses the needs of an increasingly diverse population and a global economy. Women represent a vital part of the mission of Texas A&M University.
- The Women Former Students’ Network (WFSN) shares with Texas A&M a mission to value and promote inclusiveness and diversity and to advance the engagement of women in academic, research and service activities of the institution. Women faculty at Texas A&M University, by their outstanding achievements in teaching and research, are in a unique position to influence the educational experience of current women students. Their successes are inspirational, and their distinguished careers aspirational to young women who are still choosing the future direction of their lives and careers.
- To fully support the eminence of Texas A&M University and the success of the next generation of Aggie Women, the University and the WFSN share within their missions the recognition of women faculty.

Purpose of the Award
With these shared values, Texas A&M University and the Women Former Students’ Network established the WFSN Eminent Scholar Award in 2011. The Award serves to recognize a woman Texas A&M University faculty member for extraordinary achievement in original research or scholarship.

Eligibility for the Award
Nominees for the Eminent Scholar Award shall be:
- Women who are tenured full professors and have been on the faculty at Texas A&M University for at least 2 years.
- Prior recipients of highly prestigious national and international recognitions (including but not limited to Wolf Prize, Nobel Prize, ACLS Fellowships, Guggenheim Fellowships, NEH Fellowships, or membership in the National Academies of Sciences, Medicine, or Engineering).
- Exemplary role models for women’s success, as demonstrated by a clear record of excellence in teaching/mentoring and service.

Award
The Eminent Scholar Award recipient shall receive a $4,000 award. The Eminent Scholar Award shall be jointly presented by the Dean of Faculties and the Women Former Students’ Network.
Nominations
- Any faculty member, staff member, or administrator may nominate a woman faculty member for the Eminent Scholar Award, but all nomination packets must be approved by and submitted through the Office of the Dean in the college serving as the nominee’s primary academic home.
- Nominators wishing to resubmit a dossier submitted but not selected in a previous year may do so, but to remain competitive, dossiers should be revised and updated. External letters from no more than one year ago may be resubmitted without revision.
- The nomination should be submitted electronically as a single PDF file by email to awardsprograms@tamu.edu
- To facilitate the assembly of the nomination packets, a PDF template with section headers and bookmarks will be provided; please save the nomination materials as PDFs and insert them into the template. The packets must contain:
  - A completed nomination cover sheet. The nomination includes identification of the nominee’s scholarly achievements in one of these four National Research Council categories: Life sciences, Engineering/Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities.
  - One letter of nomination (three pages maximum)—the nomination letter must address both the nominee’s scholarly eminence and the impact the nominee has had on current and past women students by serving as an inspiration and an exemplary role model for women’s success.
  - Curriculum vita (10 pages maximum)— which must include:
    a. Name of nominee
    b. Current rank, department, and college
    c. Educational history (include degree, date and institution, listing the most recent first)
    d. Employment history (listing the most recent first)
    e. Honors and awards
    f. Statement of scholarly or creative activity impact (500 words maximum)
    g. List of publications and/or creative products
    h. List of engagement and service activities including membership in professional and honorary societies (note leadership positions held)
  - Letters of recommendation (two maximum, two page limit for each). Since nominees will have a clear history of eminence, the purpose of these letters is to demonstrate how the nominee’s exceptional achievements have served as inspiration for current women students of Texas A&M and how her presence at the university has provided an exemplary role model for women’s success.
    - All letters of recommendation should be addressed to “Award Selection Committee, Eminent Scholar Award,” but should be included with the nomination package as part of the PDF submission.

Award Selection Committee
- The Award Selection Committee will be jointly established by the Office of the Dean of Faculties and the Women Former Students’ Network. It should include diverse representation across colleges and at least one female Distinguished Professor. The President of the Women Former Students’ Network shall appoint one or two women former students. The Committee shall be chaired by a female member appointed by the Dean of Faculties, and may be co-chaired by the member appointed by the WFSN.
- Award selection committee members will be assembled based on the needs for subject matter expertise associated with the pool of nominees. Reviewers who have potential conflicts of interest (members of the nominee’s department, collaborators, former trainees of the nominee, etc.) will not
be invited if known. If they are included, they will recuse themselves from review and ranking of the nominee with which they have a conflict of interest. Each nomination is assigned to a reviewer subcommittee composed of 3 members
  o Primary reviewer – matches the nominee subject matter expertise
  o Secondary reviewer – matches the nominee subject matter expertise
  o Tertiary reviewer – outside nominee subject matter
  o Quaternary reviewer – outside nominee subject matter

- Each subcommittee reviewer will score the nominee reviewed using a whole number range from 1 (least deserving) to 5 (most deserving). The same score may be given by a reviewer to different nominees.
- The Dean of Faculties Office will collect the data from all reviewers and tabulate it, giving the average score for each nominee.
- Approximately the top 50% of nominees, based on the rankings from these data, will move forward for discussion by the committee as a whole. However, any member of the committee as a whole can request discussion of any nominee no matter how she is ranked.
- During the discussions of nominees by the whole committee, all the reviewers speak, in order from primary to quaternary, adding only new unique information. Next, discussion opens up to the whole committee. Finally, the scores are revisited. Each of the four reviewers announces his or her revised score.
- Immediately following discussion of a nominee, each member of the whole committee individually scores the nominee on a scoresheet. The score must be a whole number within the new range of scores established by the 4 reviewers. The committee member should enter ND (not discussed) on the scoresheet for nominations not discussed or CON if the committee member did not vote because of a conflict of interest.
- After all nominees have been scored or not discussed, the scores are tabulated and the nominees ranked by a person designated by the Dean of Faculties’ office.

**Timeline**

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<tr>
<td>Early to mid-April</td>
<td>Call for nominations issued</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-July</td>
<td>Nomination packets due to the office of the Dean of Faculties</td>
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<td>Late August</td>
<td>Awards Selection Committee deliberations</td>
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<td>October 26, 2018</td>
<td>Presentation of award by Women’s Former Student Network</td>
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