

The Thomas Jefferson Award

For Embodiment of the Ideals of Thomas Jefferson

Purpose

The Thomas Jefferson Award, funded through a grant from the Robert Earl McConnell Foundation, honors a member of the University of Missouri community who “through personal influence and performance of duty in **teaching**, writing and scholarship, character and influence, devotion and loyalty to the University best exemplifies the principles and ideals of Thomas Jefferson.” For example, Jefferson encouraged competition among ideas, rejected superstition in favor of a scientific and rational world view, believed that society and government should be tolerant of differences, supported free public education and the application of knowledge to the solution of public problems, and was devoted to free expression. In light of its stated purpose, the Thomas Jefferson Award recognizes individuals who rise above excellence and demonstrate clear distinction in **teaching**, research, writing, creative activities, and service to the University of Missouri and humankind.

Award Amount

The award is in the amount of \$15,000, less applicable taxes. It also includes a certificate and the Thomas Jefferson Cup. The recipient of this award may hold the title of Thomas Jefferson Professor during the two years that he/she is the current recipient. After two years, the title of “Thomas Jefferson Fellow” may be used.

Eligibility

Any member of the University of Missouri community, active or emeritus, associated with one of the campuses for at least ten years is eligible.

The Thomas Jefferson Award will be given in odd-numbered years.

Nomination Format

All nomination materials must be submitted electronically.

Nominations should include a **cover letter** summarizing the nominee’s contributions in teaching, research, writing, creative activities, and service to the University of Missouri and humankind. **No more than 10 letters of support** may accompany the nomination. Letters may be from students, colleagues, alumni, and external referees. An up-to-date **curriculum vita** of no more than 10 pages and evidence of the nominee’s contributions in teaching, research, writing, creative activities and service to the University of Missouri and humankind should accompany the nomination. **The total nomination packet should not exceed 40 pages.**

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Submissions

Submit all nomination materials electronically via email to awards@umkc.edu. E-mail 'Subject' line must be "**Thomas Jefferson Nomination**" followed by nominee's **LAST, FIRST NAME**.

Preferred materials submission format is one **combined PDF Document** or **PDF Portfolio**.

Documents must be arranged in the following order (*all file names should include a reference to the document type and nominee's last name, for example "CV SMITH.pdf" or "Reference List SMITH.pdf"*):

1. **Cover Letter of Nomination**
2. **Individual Reference Letters of Support** [maximum 10]
3. **Evidence of Teaching, Research, Writing, Creative Activities and Service to UM and Humankind**
4. **Nominee's Current CV** (*no more than 10 pages*)

Deadline

January 15 (odd years only; two-year award)

Previous Recipients

| Year | Honoree | Department | Campus |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| 2009 | David C. Geary | Curators' Professor of Psychological Sciences | UM-Columbia |
| 2007 | Michael M. Harris | Professor of Management | UM-St. Louis |
| 2005 | Douglas D. Randall | Professor of Biochemistry | UM-Columbia |
| 2003 | Max J. Skidmore | Department of Political Science | UM-Kansas City |
| 2001 | Steven Hause | Department of History | UM-St. Louis |
| 1999 | Lawrence Christensen | Professor of History | UM-Rolla |
| 1998 | Betty Winfield | Professor of Journalism | UM-Columbia |
| 1997 | Susan Flader | Professor of History | UM-Columbia |
| 1997 | Donald Phares | Professor of Economics and Public Policy | UM-St. Louis |
| 1996 | David A. Leuthold | Professor Emeritus of Political Science | UM-Columbia |
| 1995 | Edmund B. Lambeth | Professor of Journalism | UM-Columbia |
| 1995 | Wayne M. Bledsoe | Professor of History and Political Sciences | UM-Rolla |
| 1994 | Osmund R. Overby | Professor of Art History and Archaeology | UM-Columbia |
| 1993 | Richard G. Hetherington | Director, Computer Science and Telecommunications Program | UM-Kansas City |
| 1992 | Doris Trojcek | Professor of Education | UM-St. Louis |
| 1991 | Charles G. Nauert, Jr. | Professor of History | UM-Columbia |
| 1990 | Joy Eugene Whitener | Dean Emeritus, Evening College and Professor of Education | UM-St. Louis |

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| Year | Honoree | Department | Campus |
|------|--|---|------------------------|
| 1989 | William J. James | Professor Emeritus of Chemistry | UM-Rolla |
| 1988 | Kenneth J. LaBudde | Professor Emeritus of History | UM-Kansas City |
| 1987 | Richard A. Watson | Professor of Political Science | UM-Columbia |
| 1986 | Abraham Eisenstark | Professor of Biological Sciences | UM-Columbia |
| 1985 | Patricia A. McIlrath | Curators' Professor of Theatre | UM-Kansas City |
| 1985 | Arvarh E. Strickland | Professor of History | UM-Columbia |
| 1984 | Charles H. Chapman | Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology | UM-Columbia |
| 1984 | Sioma Kagan | Emeritus Professor of International Business | UM-St. Louis |
| 1984 | Martin Levit | Professor of Education and Philosophy | UM-Kansas City |
| 1984 | George McPherson | Professor of Electrical Engineering | UM-RollaG-13 |
| 1983 | Harold F. Breimyer | Professor of Agricultural Economics | UM-Columbia |
| 1982 | Douglas C. Wixson, Jr. | Associate Professor of English | UM-Rolla |
| 1981 | James H. Laue | Associate Professor of Sociology | UM-St. Louis |
| 1980 | Henry E. Bent | Professor Emeritus of Chemistry | UM-Columbia |
| 1979 | Noble E. Cunningham, Jr. (Deceased) | Professor of History | UM-Columbia |
| 1978 | J. Milton Poehlman | Professor of Agronomy | UM-Columbia |
| 1977 | Hazel Browne Williams | Professor of Education | UM-Kansas City |
| 1977 | A. Sterl Artley | Professor of Education | UM-Columbia |
| 1976 | Noel P. Gist | Professor Emeritus of Sociology | UM-Columbia |
| 1975 | James Neal Primm | Professor of History | UM-St. Louis |
| 1974 | Norman N. Royall, Jr. | | UM-Kansas City |
| 1973 | Ernest Manheim | Professor Emeritus of Sociology | UM-Kansas City |
| 1972 | William H. Peden | Professor of English | UM-Columbia |
| 1971 | Lewis E. Atherton (Deceased) | Professor Emeritus of History | UM-Columbia |
| 1970 | Carlton F. Scofield | Former Chancellor, University of Missouri-Kansas City | UM-Kansas City |
| 1969 | James L. Bugg, Jr. | Former Chancellor, University of Missouri-St. Louis | UM-St. Louis |
| 1968 | John Neihardt (Deceased) | Poet | UM-St. Louis |
| 1967 | Elmer Ellis (Deceased) | President Emeritus | University of Missouri |

UM System Award Reference Link:

<http://www.umsystem.edu/ums/departments/aa/awards/awards4.shtml>