

Award for Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Researchers, Scholars, and Artists

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Title: Award for Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Researchers, Scholars and Artists

Established: October 2015

Description: UMKC's highest honor for faculty who have achieved excellence in mentoring undergraduate researchers, scholars, and artists.

Eligibility: Any UMKC faculty member whose student has presented his/her research at a forum on or off campus is eligible for consideration.

Nature of Award:^[L]_[SEP] Up to three \$1,000 stipend awards distributed annually

- Amount: \$1,000 and commemorative plaque
- Funding Source: Undergraduate Research Program
- Number of Awards: Up to three awards distributed annually
- Terms of Award: One-time, lump-sum, non-renewable award payable to recipient as a taxable stipend. Previous award recipients ineligible for a five-year period.

Qualifying Criteria: Excellent faculty mentors of undergraduate researchers, scholars, and artists who:

- Promote successful completion and showcasing of students' research, scholarly, or creative work.
- Commit to advancing students' long-term professional development - throughout their journey from student to professional.
- Ensure that students master the content and skills of their discipline, including the ability to present their work at both internal and external venues.
- Direct and connect students to resources necessary to take full advantage of academic and professional opportunities and enable students by helping them to develop their own local and national networks. *(from UM-Columbia UR Mentor Awards)*

Nominators such provide clear, compelling evidence that nominees have achieved excellence in these areas.

Nomination Process:^[L]_[SEP] Nominations for the Award for Excellence in

Mentoring Undergraduate Researchers, Scholars and Artists may come from current students or faculty colleagues. Nominations must include the following:

1. A nomination letter (up to two pages, single-spaced type), which includes:
 - Full name of nominee, as well as his or her current position and academic unit;
 - A description of how the nominee supports and promotes undergraduate research, scholarship, and/or artistic achievements at UMKC with attention to the qualifying criteria listed above;
 - Name and signature of nominator.
2. Supporting letters from faculty colleagues and previous undergraduate mentees are welcomed and encouraged. Typical nomination packets include 2-5 supporting letters.
3. A list of undergraduate mentees from the past five years and a list of their accomplishments (i.e. papers, presentations, current positions) is encouraged **but not required**.

Deadline for Submission of Nomination Materials: **March 1** annually. Send electronic nomination materials (a single PDF) to the Director of Undergraduate Research via email.

Selection Process: The Director of Undergraduate Research will assemble a subcommittee of the Undergraduate Research Advisory Board to review all nominations. The Selections Subcommittee may recommend that outstanding but unsuccessful nominations be carried forward for one or, in exceptional cases, two years. Such nominations could be updated if the nominator so chooses, but this is not required. In such cases, the nominators should be notified.

Award Date: Award must be presented prior to May 15.

Recognition: Recipient will be recognized on the UMKC Awards website, and presented with award check and commemorative plaque at appropriate UMKC awards event.