OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

OVPR Outstanding Research Staff Awards

The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) seeks nominations for the **2022 Outstanding Research Staff Awards**. OVPR recognizes that the expertise, dedication, and professionalism of our diverse research support staff contributes essentially to the success of UNM's research mission. The Outstanding Research Staff Awards are a component of our holistic commitment to promote a dynamic research support system via enhanced employee wellness, job satisfaction, and career advancement.

Award eligibility is limited to research administrators and similar support staff, including employees of the OVPR, Office of Sponsored Projects, Contract and Grant Accounting, Faculty Research Development Office, Office of Research Integrity & Compliance, Category III Research Centers, and other main and branch campus staff whose *primary* function is supportive of UNM's research mission. Research support staff at all levels, including students, are eligible. This does not include research assistants or technicians working on behalf of a single investigator. Staff who receive an award will be ineligible in the subsequent 2 years.

Nominations may be made by any UNM staff, faculty, or student, but self-nominations are not permitted. Individuals may submit one nomination per award category.

Award winners will be selected by the OVPR executive committee. Each winner will receive $1000 and will be recognized during the Research Administrator's Symposium in October.

The deadline for nominations is **September 30, 2022**. Submit nominations via UNM InfoReady Review https://unm.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1874862. Please contact Assistant Vice President for Research Melissa Emery Thompson (memery@unm.edu) if you have any questions.

Awards will be given in five categories.

1. Outstanding New Research Staff Member. Awarded to a new research staff member who has made significant contributions in a research support position, demonstrating exceptional proficiency and potential to make lasting contributions to UNM's research enterprise. Candidates should have started a research support position at UNM within the past 24 months. Staff who have previously held a research support position at UNM should not be nominated in this category, although we will consider individuals who have transitioned from a student employee to a regular staff position and those who have transitioned from non-research to research staff.
2. Exceptional Support to Researchers. Awarded to an individual who consistently provides exemplary customer service to researchers, resulting in increased productivity, efficiency, outreach, and/or satisfaction. Nominations from researchers are particularly encouraged, as are those which can demonstrate evidence of researcher appreciation.
3. Exceptional Research Staff Mentorship. Awarded to an individual whose work has significantly contributed to staff training and development above and beyond expectations. Nominees may include supervisors who have directly fostered supportive,

productive, and inclusive work environments, or other individuals whose leadership in mentoring fellow staff demonstrates strong supervisory potential.

4. Exceptional Support of Research Training. Awarded to an individual whose efforts have significantly enriched or broadened research experiences for trainees (e.g., students and postdocs).
5. Special Achievement for Research Administration. Awarded to an individual in recognition of specific project that will have significant and long-lasting impacts on the effectiveness and/or efficiency of UNM's research administrative processes.

Nomination Requirements:

Please submit nominations via UNM InfoReady Review: https://unm.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1874862. You will be asked to respond to the following questions which will form the basis for award selection:

What are the primary research-related responsibilities of the nominee? Approximately what % of this person's job is in support of research?

Please describe the *specific* accomplishments or activities that make this candidate a good fit for the award category (max 200 words).

What are the nominee's key strengths in their research support role? (max 200 words)

How has the nominee advanced UNM's research mission? (max 200 words)

How has the nominee promoted a positive and inclusive workplace? (max 200 words)