

Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in Research

The Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in Research are aligned with Priority B (Create ‘Regional to Global’ Impact) of the UNE Strategic Plan, 2007-2010. These awards are presented each year to members of the University staff who have demonstrated excellence in research outcomes by their actions and/or who have developed, promoted and/or implemented strategies to achieve excellence in research at the University of New England (UNE).

Up to five Awards in this category will be available annually and will be presented to individuals and/or teams by the Vice-Chancellor at the annual Staff Awards Ceremony. The Awards recognise contributions to UNE over the preceding twelve months.

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Timelines

First working day – February 2009	Call for Applications/Nominations
Last working day – March 2009	Applications/Nominations close
Mid-April	Assessment Committee process
End April	Unsuccessful Applicants/Nominees notified; Successful Applicants/Nominees notified; Awards announced via UNE-Official
May	Presentation of Award(s) at Staff Awards Ceremony

Eligibility

All members of the University staff (including teams) will be eligible. A team may consist of a work team or unit who have worked together to achieve a particular outcome. Adjunct and Honorary staff are able to apply/be nominated where they can provide evidence of a formal relationship with the University and that all research funding generated has been accounted for by UNE. Successful applicants/nominees are ineligible to apply/be nominated again within three years of receiving an Award. Applicants who have been employed at UNE for less than 12 months are not eligible.

Assessment criteria

These Awards are intended to recognise staff, individually or in teams, who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in research at UNE in the twelve months preceding the closing date. Applications/nominations must be supported by evidence that clearly demonstrates the research achievements of the applicants/nominees. The application/nomination itself should indicate the research conducted and provide evidence of its impact including (but not limited to):

- Outstanding publications as evidenced by peer review;
- Research grant success;
- Commercial success (in the form of patents, technology transfer, products or other activities);
- Artistic success (in exhibitions, performances or other activity);
- Professional awards or recognition for research activity;
- Any other discipline-specific achievement, including evidence of impact on professional, industry or other practice, or on policies.

In addition, team applications should demonstrate highly collaborative approaches to their contribution to research and show evidence of the effectiveness of their collaboration against the assessment criteria.

Applications/Nominations

Application/Nomination forms can be obtained from the following web address:

<http://www.une.edu.au/od/vc-awards.php>.

In addition to the statement providing demonstrated evidence against the criteria, an abbreviated CV of each applicant/nominee of no more than 2 pages (outlining workload, responsibilities and significant achievements) should be attached. Research Services will download and attach a publications report on request.

Assessment Process

Submitted applications/nominations will be considered by the Academic Board Research Committee and recommendations sent to Vice-Chancellor for approval (following the April Research Committee meeting). The Vice-Chancellor will have final determination.

The Vice-Chancellor reserves the right not to assign Awards in any year. Results of the assessment process will be final and no appeal arises from the Committee's decisions.

Value of Awards

Award recipients (either an individual or a team) will receive a Certificate and \$2000. The amount of any team Award will be divided equally between the members of the team.

Winners will have the option of receiving this amount of money as an additional salary payment; or it can be used for:

- attendance at courses or conferences relevant to their work and approved by Head of Cost Centre; or
- purchase of equipment approved by Head of Cost Centre, to an equivalent value, subject to meeting the purchasing requirements of the University.