The CAGS/UMI Distinguished Dissertation Awards recognize Canadian doctoral dissertations that make unusually significant and original contributions to their academic field. They were established in 1994 and are presented annually. There are two awards: one for engineering, medical sciences and natural sciences; and one for fine arts, humanities and social sciences. The Awards are granted by the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS) and are sponsored by Proquest-UMI (University Microfilms International). They include a $1,500 prize, a Citation Certificate, and travel expenses of up to $1,500 to attend the 2018 CAGS 56th Annual Conference (Winnipeg, Manitoba).

Eligible Dissertations:

- A dissertation in any discipline in engineering, medical sciences and natural sciences completed and accepted by the FGSR between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017.
- A dissertation in any discipline in the fine arts, humanities and social sciences completed and accepted by the FGSR between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017.
- In interdisciplinary domains or in fields that overlap the two broad areas in which the prizes are given, the dean of graduate studies must decide for which prize it is appropriate to submit the dissertation.

Nomination Procedure:

Each department may submit one nomination to grad.awards@ualberta.ca by Friday, March 2, 2018 (late nominations will not be accepted). The subject line of email must contain name of award and full name and ID# of nominee. Each nomination must include:

1) a letter from the Chair describing the reasons for the nomination, and why the dissertation constitutes a significant piece of original work;
2) the name and departmental affiliation of the nominee’s research supervisor;
3) the name and affiliation of the external examiner;
4) a copy of the external examiner’s pre-defence report, signed and dated;
5) an abstract of the dissertation, not exceeding 350 words, written by the nominee in non-technical language;
6) an up-to-date CV. Contributions to collaborative publications and research activities should be clearly explained.

FGSR will consider all nominations received by March 2 and forward one nomination for each award to the CAGS National Office by the March 31, 2018 deadline. Successful nominees will be notified directly by CAGS.

For further information, please contact the CAGS National Office:
E-mail: info@cags.ca; Telephone: (613) 562-0949; Fax: (613) 562-9009 Web: http://www.cags.ca