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Parent Policy: [Awards for Faculty Excellence Policy](#)

## Awards for Faculty – J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research Application and Selection Procedure

<b>Parent Policy:</b>	Awards for Faculty Excellence Policy
<b>Office of Administrative Responsibility:</b>	Office of the Vice-President (Research)
<b>Approver:</b>	Vice-President (Research)
<b>Scope:</b>	Compliance with University procedure extends to all members of the University community.

### Overview

J. Gordin Kaplan, the first Vice-President (Research) at the University of Alberta, created the University Research Prize, which was first presented in 1982. The University Research Prize was renamed in 1988 in order to pay special tribute to the memory of J. Gordin Kaplan. The Award is now known as the J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research. It is the most prestigious University of Alberta research award.

Two awards are presented annually to laud outstanding work in distinct fields of research:

- Excellence in the general area of Humanities, Social Sciences, Law, Education, and Fine Arts, and
- Excellence in the Sciences or Engineering.

### Purpose

To recognize and honour faculty members:

- a. whose research contributions, both fundamental and applied, add significantly to our knowledge base,
- b. who are recognized nationally and internationally for what they have accomplished as scholars, and
- c. who set a standard of excellence for other University of Alberta faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and for the community-at-large.

### PROCEDURE

Each Faculty may submit one nomination for the J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research. The Faculty of Arts may submit two nominations provided that the nominees are selected from different divisions within that Faculty (Social Sciences, Humanities, and Fine Arts).

Each nomination must contain appropriate documentation. Please refer to the *J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research Terms of Reference and Application Process* for the details on the appropriate documentation that is required for each nomination.

Each nomination must be compiled in a specific format. Please refer to the *J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research Terms of Reference and Application Process* for the information on the compilation of the nomination.

Records that arise from this competition will be managed in accordance with the provisions of the *Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

One awardee from each field will be selected by a Jury that will be comprised of the Vice-President (Research), the Associate Vice-President (Research), and representatives from the University and the off-campus community.

The three main criteria that will be used by the Jury for the assessment of the nominees are:

- a. quality of research,
- b. impact of research on the advancement of the field, both nationally and internationally, and
- c. distinction which the research has brought to the University of Alberta.

Each Award consists of a \$5000 cash prize and an engraved plaque of recognition.

Awardees automatically become members of the *Academy of Kaplan Laureates*, and they may use the title of J. Gordin Kaplan Laureate in perpetuity.

## **DEFINITIONS**

There are no definitions for this Procedure. [\[▲Top\]](#)

## **FORMS**

There are no forms for this Procedure. [\[▲Top\]](#)

## **RELATED LINKS**

Should a link fail, please contact [uappol@ualberta.ca](mailto:uappol@ualberta.ca). [\[▲Top\]](#)

[Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#) (Government of Alberta)

[J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research Terms of Reference and Application Process](#) (University of Alberta)

[Kaplan Laureates](#) (University of Alberta)

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## J. GORDIN KAPLAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

### Terms of reference and application process

The University of Alberta's most prestigious research award is named for the University's first Vice-President (Research). Two awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding work in distinct fields of research:

1. excellence in general area of humanities, social sciences, law, education and fine arts and
2. excellence in the sciences or engineering.

The award recognizes and honours faculty members:

- Whose research contributions, fundamental and applied, add significantly to our knowledge base.
- Who are recognized nationally and internationally for their scholarly accomplishments.
- Who set a standard of excellence for other University of Alberta faculty, graduate and undergraduate students and the community-at-large.

### Selection Process

1. Each faculty may use whatever procedures it deems appropriate to select its nominee.
2. The department must prepare a case in support of the nominee, which will include the following:
  - Statement describing procedures followed in making nomination.
  - Statement of the category in which nomination is to be considered.
  - Statement regarding why nominee qualifies for the award.
  - Brief description of nominee's three or four most important publications.
  - Current curriculum vitae listing authorship of publications as the authorship appears in print (i.e., for multiple author publications, nominee's name shall appear in the correct sequence).
  - Letter of recommendation from department chair.
3. Deans will provide a detailed letter of support for the nominee, separate from the letter of transmittal.
4. Three letters are required from external assessors in the nominee's field. **Assessors should be outside experts with no close collegial or trainee link to the nominee. At least one of the letters must be from an international assessor.**

Letters should address the nominee's suitability in terms of the criteria for the award. The faculty should submit a short biography on each external assessor for the jury. The University of Alberta will receive letters of reference in confidence. Except under limited and specific circumstances, the university will maintain letters of reference in confidence.

5. Teaching will not be part of the evaluation except for graduate teaching and supervision relevant to the nominee's research.
6. Faculties are welcome to resubmit the name of an individual nominated before. If this is done, a complete dossier is required for each subsequent submission.
7. Each faculty shall indicate which category it would like its nomination to be considered:
  - humanities, social sciences, law, education and fine arts or
  - sciences or engineering.

If the nomination is not an obvious fit in the category selected, the faculty will provide a rationale for its choice of category.

### **Application process**

Prepare the dossier for the J. Gordin Kaplan Award nomination as follows:

1. Nominations must be submitted electronically.
2. The dossier **MUST** be compiled in the following order:
  - Statement of procedures followed in making nomination.
  - Statement of the category in which the nomination is to be considered (with rationale if required).
  - Statement why nominee qualifies for award.
  - Letter of support from the dean.
  - Letter of recommendation from the department chair.
  - List of three or four most significant publications/creative works or equivalent (for fine arts) with brief summary of their importance.
  - Three letters from external assessors addressing nominee's suitability in terms of award criteria.
  - Copy of nominee's current curriculum vitae.
  - Other supporting documentation (reprints may be included but are not required).

### **Deadline and submission**

The deadline for receiving nominations, including dossiers, is 4:30 pm, March 29, 2019. Please submit the PDF nomination electronically to Annette Kujda at [annette.kujda@ualberta.ca](mailto:annette.kujda@ualberta.ca).

*Records from this competition will be managed in accordance with the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*