

Public Impact Recognition Award

Purpose of the Award

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has established a new award to recognize faculty or staff whose research or creative activities have had a significant public impact, where such benefit has been achieved in part through the efforts of those same faculty to bring their research or creative activity into the public arena. For this purpose, the term “public impact” is defined broadly to include scientific, social, cultural, artistic, political and other forms of public benefit that may be local, national or global.

The rationale for establishing these awards is to:

- Demonstrate that the University recognizes and values the extra effort required to translate or transfer specific research findings into public benefit.
- Provide a platform for WSU to highlight and publicize the ways in which our local, state, national, and global communities are benefitting from WSU research and creative activities.

Award Details

Up to four awards will be announced annually. The awards will reflect the importance of public impact across all disciplines.

Review Criteria

Review of the nominations will primarily be focused on the following criteria:

Public Impact

The nominee has undertaken a concerted effort to bring their research or creative activities into the public arena. These endeavors are characterized by a deliberate effort to translate or transfer their research or creative activities for the benefit of the broader public. “Public Impact” is defined broadly to include scientific, social, cultural, artistic, political, and other forms of public benefit that may be local, national, or global in scale.

Evidence of Public Impact

The nomination materials (including the letter(s) from community beneficiaries of the work) demonstrate that the nominee’s research or creative activities have had a clear and sustained public impact.

Extent of Public Impact

Taking into account the area of the nominee’s research or creative activity, they have exceeded expectations for the typical public impact in their field and have striven to push the boundaries of how their work may benefit the public. The scale and scope of their public impact is exceptional in the context of any challenges and difficulties they have encountered. For individual nominations, the extent of the public impact is exceptional for the nominee’s career stage. For teams or centers, the extent of the public impact is exceptional for the length of time the collaboration or center has existed.

Sustained Commitment to Public Impact

The nominee has demonstrated a continuing commitment across a significant period of time to ensuring that their research or creative activities are of benefit to the wider public. Public impact has been a central component in the conception of their research or creative activities.

Eligibility

Nominations may be made for an individual or a team (e.g., project team, center, institute, etc.). All faculty and staff that meet the eligibility requirements can apply.

Submission Instructions

If you would like to submit a nomination for this program, please complete the nomination form and submit the required materials as outlined below by September 30, 2023.

- Nomination form
- Letter of nomination
 - This letter should describe how the nominee/team's research or creative activities translated into public benefit and the nominee/team's contribution to that translation. Limited to 2 pages.
- Personal statement
 - Include a statement of the nominee/project leader(s). Limited to 1 page.
 - For team nominations, a joint statement from the project leaders may be uploaded.
- Support letters
 - Include support letter(s) from a member of the public/community who benefited from the nominee/team's contributions or can speak with personal knowledge of the community benefit. At least 1 support letter is required.
- CV(s)
 - Include CV(s) of the nominee or project leader(s) (for team nominations).
- Optional
 - Include additional materials for the review committee to consider such as news articles and other publications in external lay media regarding the research or creative activity. For digital media, a page with links to the items can be included.

Please send nomination to Sheila Bensman sheila.bensman@wright.edu. no later than Friday, September 30, 2023 at 5 p.m. RSP will convene a committee comprised of various disciplines who will review the nominations and their documents. Faculty members who have met the criteria will be honored at a reception hosted by the President and the Provost.

Public Impact Recognition Award

Nomination Form

Nominators Name: _____

Nominators Title: _____

Nominators Email: _____

Nominators Department/College: _____

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Title: _____

Nominee's Email: _____

Nominee's Department/College: _____

Nomination Type: Individual Nomination ____

Team Nomination ____

Has a letter of nomination been provided? Yes____ No____

Has a personal statement been provided? Yes____ No____

Have support letters been provided? Yes____ No____

Has the nominee's CV been attached? Yes____ No____

Has any additional materials been provided for consideration? Yes____ No____

Provide a summary/rationale (250 words maximum) that succinctly states the reason for the nomination, including the significant beneficial impact on the nominee's work, as well as how the nominee has strived to bring that impact into the public arena.