

Paul Simon Outstanding Teacher-Scholar Award Program Guidelines

Purpose

The Paul Simon Outstanding Teacher-Scholar Award is presented to a SIUE faculty member in order to recognize the interdependence of scholarship and teaching. The Award confirms SIUE's belief that an individual must be a good scholar to be a good teacher.

Eligibility

This program is limited to tenured faculty. An individual may not receive the Simon Award for two consecutive years. No limit exists on the number of applicants a department or program may submit, although no more than one award will be given each year.

Nature of Award

Pending availability of funds, the Paul Simon Award recognizes faculty members who contribute original research or creative activities and integrate that research or creative activity into their teaching activities. A certificate and a \$5,000 award, routed through the payroll system, will be presented to the honoree.

The Paul Simon Award is not given automatically each year; it is only awarded when a nominee of superior merit is selected. A maximum of one award will be given annually, pending availability of funds.

The Paul Simon Awardee is expected to make a presentation for graduate students and faculty that reveals how the awardee has integrated research and teaching. The presentation takes place at the Graduate School Research Symposium the year following receipt of the award.

Application Procedures

Applicants submit their full proposal by completing the Paul Simon Outstanding Teacher-Scholar form in Kualu Build. **Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday in February.** You can access this form on the [Graduate School's Forms page](#). Submissions must be in the following order and uploaded as a single attachment.

- 1) Complete the [Application Cover Sheet](#)
- 2) Introductory Statement: Applications must be supported by a detailed **introductory statement** of three (3) to five (5) pages maximum supplying evidence of the significance of the research or creative activity and the success in integrating this research or creative activity into excellence in teaching. The statement s to be no longer than 5 pages, with 1” margins and font sizes at minimum Times New Roman 11 or Arial 10.

Examples of research or creative activity achievements are the following:

- involvement in externally-sponsored research;
- publications;
- exhibits, productions, and performances;
- presentations;
- evidence of impact upon the discipline;
- new information the applicant's activity brought to the discipline;
- a steady continuation of such activity.

Success in integrating research, research experience, or creative activities in teaching may involve the following:

- directing laboratory, studio, clinical, or field experiences;
- working with students individually or in small groups;
- providing superior learning opportunities;
- leading discussions; or
- student achievements, such as publications, presentations, exhibits, productions, and performances.

The narrative should include professional evidence demonstrating a steady continuation of (a) interactions that integrate outstanding research or creative activities into excellent teaching, as well as (b) the research or creative activity.

3) **A curriculum vitae** must also be included.

4) **Letter of Support:** The applicant's chair, or another appropriate faculty member, must provide a **letter of support** that details the applicant's achievements in the arena of research or creative activities as well as the applicant's success in linking outstanding research or creative activities with excellent teaching.

5) **Appendices** providing more detailed information about the above accomplishments in research and creative activity and its integration into research may be included in the portfolio. Examples may include:

- **Letters of Support**
 - peers who would discuss the above item(s).
 - Students who have gone on in the field discussing how they were influenced by the nominee, and/or
 - Current or recent students who could discuss teaching or mentoring activities, especially those that involve the integration of the nominee's research or creative activity.
- Samples of student projects, exhibits, concerts, etc.
- Abstracts of pivotal papers or presentations

- Listing of student committees (thesis committees, for example) chaired or served on
- Sample of teaching activities/teaching plan that incorporates research or creative activity.

Selection Criteria

The Graduate School's Research and Projects Advisory Board (RPAB) will select the Simon Award recipient. In some cases, the RPAB Committee may request an ad hoc reviewer at their discretion. If applicants wish to exclude specific individuals from review, applicants may contact the program coordinator directly.

The RPAB Committee's evaluation of nominees will include, but is not limited to, consideration of the following:

- a record of research or creative activity that is original and that the applicant has continued to develop;
- the extent to which the research or creative activity is incorporated into teaching;
- the level to which the applicant engages undergraduate and/or graduate students in research or creative activities as part of the instructional experience; and
- the quality of the individual's consistent involvement in the research or creative activity and teaching.

Definition of Research

Research is broadly defined as all creative, critical, scholarly, and/or empirical activity that expands, clarifies, reorganizes, or develops knowledge or artistic perception. This definition of research includes the demonstration, implementation, application, and dissemination of research results and those grants designated as research by the granting agency. This definition of research does not include departmental curriculum development, faculty development (learning an established technique, a language, or a methodology; dissertation research), institutional research (studies related directly to the operation of the University), and public service and consulting activities.

Although not included in the definition of research, departmental curriculum development (preparation of curriculum materials, curriculum revisions, student interest surveys) may be evidence of the nominee's integration of research or creative activities with teaching.

Other Resources:

- Paul Simon Program Website: <http://www.siu.edu/funding/internal-funding/simon.shtml>
- Reviewer Guide for Graduate School Internal Grant Programs: <http://www.siu.edu/funding/internal-funding/reviewers.shtml>

Program Contact: Email any questions to siueresearch@siu.edu