

## 2024 Chancellor's Award for Postdoctoral Research

The *Chancellor's Award for Postdoctoral Research* recognizes the important contributions that postdoctoral scholars make to UCLA's research mission. Awardees will each receive a plaque and a stipend in the amount of \$7,500.

### Eligibility

The *Chancellor's Award for Postdoctoral Research* honors outstanding research accomplishments by a UCLA postdoctoral scholar. To be eligible for the award, an individual must:

- Hold or have held an appointment ([Titles 3252, 3253, 3254 or 3256](#)) as a UCLA postdoctoral scholar for at least 9 consecutive months between August 2023 and July 2024. The appointment must have been approved by the Division of Graduate Education in accordance with University policy;
- Be nominated by the official mentor(s) and selected as one of the nominees by the department or institute in which the postdoctoral scholar holds their primary appointment;
- Absent compelling extenuating circumstances, receive the prize in person at the UCLA Postdoctoral Scholars and Mentors Awards Ceremony on November 13, 2024.

### Selection Criteria

- Innovation and creativity of the research;
- Research productivity while a UCLA postdoctoral scholar, as evidenced by publications, presentations, inventions, performances, products, etc.;
- Scholarly distinction, such as awards or other recognition for the postdoctoral research, or other evidence of the impact of the work;
- Significance of the nominee's work to the research field or its impact on society;
- Leadership by the postdoctoral scholar if a member of a research team or collaborative effort.

### Nomination Package

**All nominations must be submitted via the online [nomination form](#).**

Each department or institute submission must include:

1. **Official letter of submission by Department Chair or Institute Director (1 page):** Provide a brief cover letter, signed by the Chair or Director, addressed to the *Selection Committee, Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Award*. If the department is nominating more than one scholar, the Chair or Director must rank the candidates and provide a very brief rationale.

**2. Nomination letter from the Faculty Mentor(s) (≤3 pages):**

- The letter should be addressed to the *Selection Committee, Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Award, and signed by the faculty mentor(s)*. Please review the selection criteria. In *no more than three pages* (minimum 11 pt. font), the letter should describe the nominee's postdoctoral research at UCLA, the nominee's specific contributions to the research, the nominee's research productivity, and the significance or impact of the work.
- Mentoring or other activities that were relevant to the project's success may also be described. The letter should present a clear case, based on the supporting evidence in the nomination, for why the postdoctoral scholar merits the distinction this award represents.

The nominator should also include the following information in the letter:

- the nominee's total time as a postdoctoral scholar at UCLA and elsewhere;
- how many postdoctoral scholars the nominator has supervised, and how the nominee ranks among them;
- an email address for further contact regarding the nomination;

**3. Seconding letter(s) (≤3 pages each):**

- At least one, but no more than two additional signed letters should be provided in support of the nomination. These cannot be from the individuals named in #1 or #2 above.

**4. Research Abstract:**

- In no more than 350 words, describe the nominee's postdoctoral research accomplishments. This abstract should be written for a general academic audience, as faculty from diverse fields will review the nominations. Do not list the number of papers, awards, degrees, etc. in the abstract. At the top of the abstract, please indicate: (1) the nominee's name; (2) their department; (3) the name(s) of their research mentor(s) and the department(s) in which they hold appointment(s); and (4) five to ten keywords that describe the research, to help assign nomination reviewers.

**5. Research Citation:**

- A 3–5 sentence summary of the abstract, no more than 150 words, written in ***layperson, non-specialist language*** for publication in the *digital version of the ceremony program*.

**6. Curriculum vitae of the postdoctoral scholar:**

- The postdoctoral scholar's CV is an important component of the nomination package. It should include contact information (including email), academic degrees earned, and postdoctoral appointment history, including locations, dates, mentors and very brief (≤75 word) research description(s). The CV should include awards and honors, publications, presentations, inventions, performances, etc., as well as professional memberships and relevant activities. ***Entries that relate directly to accomplishments while a postdoctoral scholar at UCLA must be highlighted in some way (e.g.,***

*colored font or highlighted text*). It would be helpful to include URL or links to journal articles.

#### **7. Publications:**

- A maximum of two publications or articles in-press (accepted manuscripts) and two press releases may be appended to the nomination.

### **Submission Process**

The faculty mentor (nominator) should first confirm the nominee's eligibility by consulting with the appropriate HR representative in the department/institute.

In addition to writing the nomination letter, faculty mentors are responsible for collecting the materials for the nomination package, which they submit to the department chair/director or their designee. The department chair or institute director is responsible for creating a process for selecting and ranking the nominations the unit will submit.

### **Timeline**

- **Late July:** Nominators submit nominations to the department chair or institute director (or their designee) for pre-screening. An internal deadline may be set by department.
- **Early to mid August:** Department chair/institute director or their designee selects nomination(s) to submit to the Selection Committee, Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Award.
- **All completed MyUCLA nomination forms are due to the Division of Graduate Education by 5 p.m. (PST) on Wednesday, August 28, 2024.**

### **Selection Process**

The award selection committee will include deans and senior faculty whose research expertise spans the nominees' fields of endeavor.

The award recipients will be announced and honored at the UCLA Postdoctoral Scholars and Mentors Awards Ceremony on **November 13, 2024**, hosted by Roger Wakimoto, Vice Chancellor for Research and Creative Activities, and Susan Ettner, Dean of Graduate Education. All of the nominees and their mentors will be recognized at this event, as will the general postdoctoral scholar community.