

OFFICE OF RESEARCH CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2017 Innovator of the Year Awards

As Ohio State continues to expand its role in the commercialization of research, it is important that we create an environment that facilitates and rewards research creativity and entrepreneurship. To support and stimulate entrepreneurial activity, Matt McNair, vice president, Corporate Engagement Office, and I will be presenting three university-wide awards to Ohio State's most successful entrepreneurs in February 2018. We are seeking nominations in the following categories: **Innovator of the Year**, **Early Career Innovator of the Year** and **Next Generation Innovator of the Year** (formerly the Student Innovator of the Year). One award will be given in each category.

The **Innovator of the Year** and **Early Career Innovator of the Year** awards are intended to recognize an Ohio State researcher who is working actively to promote commercialization of university intellectual property through invention disclosures filed, patents applied for and/or received, technologies licensed or spinoff companies formed. These activities support economic development in the central Ohio region, and serve to attract companies that create a base of operations within the state. The creation of separate award categories for more established researchers and for early career researchers allows cultivation of an entrepreneurial spirit among all of our investigators.

The former Student Innovator of the Year award is now the **Next Generation Innovator of the Year** award to reflect the inclusion of postdocs along with undergraduate and graduate students. The award is intended to recognize innovation and entrepreneurship that has contributed to the development of commercialization of a new technology. It may also recognize a trainee-initiated start-up company whose success is a result of entrepreneurial talent, creativity and energy.

We are requesting a maximum of TWO nominations from each college for each category (a total of six nominations per college). A nomination should consist of a letter from the college dean and a summary of the relevant commercialization activities from the nominee's curriculum vitae or resume. These activities include invention disclosures, patents (applied for and/or awarded), licenses generated and companies formed.

The nominees for the Innovator or Early Career Innovator need not be faculty members, allowing for the recognition of commercialization activities by staff members as well as faculty. For the Early Career Innovator category, a candidate must be either an assistant or early associate professor (if a faculty member), or have been at Ohio State no more than 10 years (if a staff member). For the Next Generation Innovator of the Year category, nominees must be undergraduate or graduate students, or postdocs, who are currently registered or recent Ohio State graduates (within the last year).

Nominations, and questions prior to nomination, should be submitted to:

Dr. Caroline Whitacre
Senior Vice President
for Research
Office of Research
208 Bricker Hall
190 N. Oval Mall
whitacre.3@osu.edu

Nominations must be received by Monday, December 4, 2017.

They will be reviewed by a committee composed of individuals both internal and external to the university.

The awards for Innovator of the Year, Early Career Innovator of the Year and Next Generation Innovator of the Year will be presented as part of the annual State of Research address on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at the Ohio Union.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY