



SENATE AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Policy Sponsor:	Provost and Vice-President (Academic)	First Approved:	<i>15 JUNE 2010</i>
Primary Contact:	University Registrar	Last Updated:	<i>24 FEBRUARY 2026</i>
Approved by:	Senate	Review Scheduled:	

A. Purpose

The Senate Awards for Excellence in Research have been established to emphasize the importance of research at Brandon University and to recognize and honour those individuals who excel in scholarship and research. There are two award categories: Tier I and Tier II.

B. The Award

A maximum of two awards will be presented annually at Spring Convocation: one Tier I and one Tier II award. The recipient(s) will be presented with a framed certificate signed by the President of the University, as Chair of Senate. A master plaque containing the names and department or Faculty/School/Unit affiliation of all recipients will be displayed on campus. The recipient(s) will also receive a research grant in the amount of \$5,000 administered under Senate-approved policies and procedures or a 3-credit hour teaching release for one academic year to be used within two years of receipt of the award in consultation with the recipient, department, and Dean/Director.

C. Eligibility

Nominees for Tier II awards must

- have completed a minimum of 3 years of employment at Brandon University and
- hold the rank of Assistant Professor, Professional Associate II, Athletic Therapist II, or Athletic Director II.

Nominees for Tier I awards must

- have completed a minimum of 3 years employment at Brandon University and
- hold the rank of Associate Professor, Full Professor, Professional Associate III, Professional Associate IV, Instructional Associate IV, Administrative Associate III, Athletic Therapist III, or Athletic Director III.

Individuals may hold both awards over the duration of their career. A minimum of 10 years must have elapsed between awards (i.e., an individual who received the Tier II award at Convocation in 2015 would be eligible for the Tier I award in 2025). Additional significant research accomplishments are anticipated to have occurred in the interval between awards. Current Canada Research Chairs and research-amended appointments are not eligible. Current members of the Brandon University Senate or Senate Research

Committee are not eligible.

In all cases when considering an applicant for this award, factors pertaining to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Decolonization, Indigenization, and Reconciliation will be considered, as appropriate to the nature of the research. Evaluation will focus on the quality, significance, and context of scholarly contributions and their demonstrated impact, recognizing that excellence may be expressed through a wide range of research activities, outputs, and outcomes.

D. Criteria

Nominations are to be submitted by current faculty members (Professorial, Professional, and Contract Academic Staff), except for members of the Senate Research Committee who are not eligible to submit nominations. The nominator shall provide a dossier to the Senate Office that demonstrates how the nominee meets the criteria. This dossier shall include, in no particular order, the following:

- a curriculum vitae addressing the criteria specified for the award, including a list of publications;
- a summary statement, not to exceed two pages, describing how the nominee satisfies the selection criteria;
- an EDI statement, not to exceed one page, describing how the nominee's research contributions and practices reflect principles and practices related to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Decolonization, Indigenization, and/or Reconciliation;
- at least two, but no more than three, one or two-page letters from colleagues (at both Brandon University and other institutions/organizations) clearly stating in what capacity they have worked with the nominee and outlining the nominee's research contributions; and
- evidence that the nominee has consented to the nomination.

Optional: any other evidence not reflected in the nomination package that demonstrates merit, such as previous recognitions, awards, or grants, samples of research outputs (articles, datasets, software, creative works, community reports, etc.), documentation showing real-world research impact, and/or documentation of knowledge mobilization activities. .

Research/scholarship should not be narrowly defined and should be reflective of the myriads of ways in which research occurs at the University. Quality, originality, real-world impact of research outputs, as well as public dissemination of knowledge, and engagement with teamwork, mentorship, and leadership in diverse contexts will be deemed more important than quantity of research outputs.

E. Call for Nominations

- The Senate Office shall notify the University community that nominations are being sought by November 1st.
- Nominees must give their consent to being nominated.
- Nominations must be submitted electronically to the Senate Office by January 15th.
- The Senate Office will review for initial eligibility and distribute eligible nomination dossiers to the respective Deans/Directors by January 22nd.

F. Advisory Committee

Each Dean/Director of a unit in which there are nominations shall appoint and Chair an Advisory Committee consisting of two members representing at least two departments. The two members should be active researchers.

Note: With the exception of the Chairs of the Advisory Committees, members of the Senate Research Committee may not serve on the Advisory Committees.

The Committee will be responsible for selecting the faculty/school/unit nominee. If there is a nominee, the Advisory Committee shall forward the completed dossier and Committee recommendation letter to the Office of the Vice-President (Research & Graduate Studies), with copy to the Senate Office, by **February 1st**.

G. Senate Research Committee

The Senate Research Committee shall serve as the Recommendation Committee and shall develop a set of criteria by which nominations will be evaluated.

The Committee shall review the nominations forwarded by the Advisory Committees and, by applying the criteria to the information submitted for each nominee, may recommend one candidate. The recommendation to Senate, including nomination package, is to be forwarded to the Senate Office by **March 1st**.

H. Senate

The Senate will review recommendations and make final selection decisions at its March meeting.

I. Recipient Notification

The Senate Office will notify successful recipient(s) and provide information regarding processes for award receipt.