

# A Spotlight on Faculty Awards & Distinctions

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Academic Leadership Series

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# Panelists



**Melissa Chan**

*Major Awards Coordinator  
Office of the Provost*



**Laura Shackelford**

*Professor  
Department of Anthropology*



**Martin Gruebele**

*James R. Eiszner Endowed Chair  
Department of Chemistry*



# The Awards Ecosystem



Melissa Chan

Major Awards Coordinator

Office of the Provost



# The Awards Ecosystem

- Internal Awards
  - Department awards
  - College Awards
  - Campus Awards
  - University of Illinois System Awards
- External Awards



# Internal Awards Insight



Laura Shackelford

Professor

Anthropology

*Chair of the Teaching Advancement Board*



# Campus Awards

- Campus Awards for Excellence in Public Engagement
- Campus Awards for Excellence in Faculty Leadership
- Campus Awards for Excellence in Instruction



# Teaching Advancement Board

- Provost's Initiative for Teaching Advancement (PITA) grant program
- Annual Faculty Retreat
- Campus Awards for Excellence in Instruction



# Campus Awards for Excellence in Instruction

- Excellence in Graduate & Professional Teaching
- Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring
- Excellence in Guiding Undergraduate Research
- Excellence in Online Teaching
- Excellence in Undergraduate Advising
- Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching





# Nomination Tips

- Speak directly to award criteria
  - Campus definition of teaching excellence (well-designed, well-delivered, inclusive & ethical, reflective & evolving)
- Know your audience
- Be specific and detailed
- Provide examples



# Other things to know

- Changes to nomination packets
- Teaching is broadly defined
  - Campus definition of teaching excellence
  - Other teaching-related activities
- Value of your nomination



# External Awards

## *Promoting Faculty Scholarship and Advancement by Nominating your Faculty for Awards*



Martin Gruebele

James R. Eiszner Endowed Chair

Chemistry

*Chair of the Awards Committee for the Department of Chemistry*



# Faculty Awards - Philosophy

- Faculty awards are beneficial to the individual, the department and the campus
- Every learned society, professional organization and philanthropic foundation sponsors awards
- Recognition by one's peers is one of the most rewarding aspects of academic professional careers
- Faculty awards serve different roles at different stages of careers
  - Encouragement for early career faculty
  - Acknowledgement for major breakthroughs
  - Lifetime achievement for more senior faculty



# Faculty Awards - Policies

- The Awards Committee will follow a set of criteria for each award to facilitate deliberating the merits of faculty members as nominees. Such criteria include:
  - The specific criteria set forth by the award itself, e.g. purpose of the award, field of study, age or nationality restrictions
  - Suitable activity of faculty in the specific area targeted by the award
  - Appropriate stature in the field as evidenced by recent past winners of the award



# Faculty Awards - Organization

- Appoint an awards committee with an organized and proactive chair who has stature in the department
- Distribute the faculty in the department among the committee members who are assigned as “stewards” for the nominations by area of specialization
- Have the committee chair compile and maintain an “Action Table” for the year’s awards
- Maintain a historical list of nominations, seconders and outcomes
- Create an archive of all nomination materials for use in future nominations



# Faculty Awards – Action Table on Box

## ACTION TABLE FOR

### AWARDS NOMINATIONS FOR 2023-2024

*PLEASE SEND UPDATED INFORMATION AS IT DEVELOPS TO [mgruebel@illinois.edu](mailto:mgruebel@illinois.edu)*

#### Awards Committee Members

Chair: Martin Gruebele (MG)

John Katzenellenbogen (JAK)

Deborah Leckband (DEL)

Cathy Murphy (CJM, Ex-Officio)

Tom Rauchfuss (TBR)

Ken Suslick (KSS)

Wilfred van der Donk (WvdD)

Color Code:

Items Needing Action or Attention This Semester

Items Needing Action or Attention Next Semester

Items Needing Action or Attention Next Academic Year

Items Currently Complete

Information to Note

Queries

***THE DEADLINE FOR ACS AWARDS NOMINATION IS NOVEMBER 1, 2023  
NOMINATIONS NEED TO BE ARRANGED OVER THE SUMMER***



# Faculty Awards - Organization

## Responsibilities:

- Check with each of the faculty colleagues that the awards identified for them are appropriate and that the list is complete. Even if deadlines have past, it is important to have their feed back for future opportunities
- For those nominations that are active, please be sure that:
  - the nominator has been identified and is aware of the nomination requirements and deadlines.
  - the candidate has prepared updated information to aid the nominator (CV, list of publications, nomination statement draft).
  - the seconders have been identified and provided with any documentation to aid in the letter writing.
  - please fill in any of these names if those sections are blank.
- Any additional comments about the faculty colleagues' wishes or your discussions with them that is relevant can be written directly on the page.
- **Note: Dates correspond to the dates of submission of award nomination materials, not the “award year”.**

## Faculty Assignments: [Research Faculty]; {joint appointees}

John Katzenellenbogen:	Hergenrother, Moore, Sarlah, van der Donk, Denmark [Rauchfuss]
Deborah Leckband	Backlund, Gruebele, Jain, Makri, Oldfield, Vura-Weis, Landes, Nie
Martin Gruebele:	Han, Hirata, Jackson, Rodríguez-López, Luthey-Schulten, Link, Shen
Wilfred van der Donk:	Burke, Chan, Denmark, Mehta, Mitchell, Silverman, White, [Katzenellenbogen]
Cathy Murphy	- (Head, BI Director)
Tom Rauchfuss:	Girolami, Mirica, Olshansky, Snyder [Suslick]
Ken Suslick:	Gewirth, Leckband, Murphy, Sweedler [Dlott]





# Faculty Awards - Organization

NOMINEE	AWARDS COMT ASSGMT	AWARD NAME	DEAD-LINE mm/dd/yy	NOMINATOR	SECONDRS	ACTION/COMMENTS
Denmark, S.	JAK	A. C. Cope Award	11/01/20	Corey	Curie Willstetter	Done in 2019 Active for 3 years
Denmark, S.	JAK	Tetrahedron Prize	03/31/19	Prelog	Debye Ruzicka	Done in 2018 Active for 3 years
Denmark, S.	JAK	Chirality Medal	01/06/20	Woodward	Van't Hoff Natta Sharpless	Done in 2019 Updated in 2020 Update in 2021
Denmark, S.	JAK	RSC Centenary Prize	01/15/20	Ziegler		Done in 2020 Redo in 2021
Denmark, S.	JAK	RSC Sir Derek Barton Prize	01/15/20	Barton	Staudinger	Done in 2020 Redo in 2021
Denmark, S.	JAK	Richards Medal (Northeastern Section)	10/31/20	Richards	Knowles	Done in 2018 Active for 2020 cycle
Denmark, S.	JAK	Pauling Medal (Puget Sound)	05/01/20	Pauling	Robinson Grubbs	Done in 2020 Update in 2021
Denmark, S.	JAK	Nobel Laureate Signature Award with Andrew Zahrt	11/01/20	Wittig	Suzuki Fischer	Do in 2020

Birthdate: 17 June 1953

## SUCCESSFUL NOMINATIONS

Denmark, S.	JAK	ACS Kipping Silicon				Won in 2013
Denmark, S.	JAK	Mosher Award Santa Clara Section				Won in 2014
Denmark, S.	JAK	<i>J. Org. Chem.</i> Outstanding Paper				Won in 2019



# Faculty Awards - Process

- Compile a comprehensive list of available awards (including those in related disciplines)
  - include eligibility, deadlines and websites
- Nominate **all** deserving faculty members every year for at least one award
- Each committee member is assigned to familiarize themselves with and identify suitable awards in consultation with each of their faculty members
- Match awards with accomplishments of faculty
- The steward identifies an appropriate nominator and seconders in consultation with the nominee



# Faculty Awards - Process

- Choosing nominators and seconders
  - Preferably NOT a UIUC colleague
  - Previous award winners, other opinion leaders
- Have some nominees help compose drafts of their own nominations
- For others, do everything on their behalf, time permitting
- Keep track of deadlines
  - Start assembling the nomination material early
  - Send frequent reminders to nominators and seconders



# Faculty Awards - Process

- Coordinate the writing of the nominating letters
  - Use nominating and seconding letters to highlight different aspects of the nominee's accomplishments
  - Align the accomplishments with the explicit purpose of the award
  - Put each major accomplishment in context, summarize its impact, mention previous awards
  - Emphasize what distinguishes the nominee
  - In some cases, send drafts of letters to nominators and seconders for them to personalize
  - Edit letters to remove jargon and hyperbole



# Faculty Awards - Promotion

- If at first you don't succeed...
  - Renominate and refresh nominations
  - Secure copies of letters from nominators and seconders for use next time and for other awards
- Broadly advertise your winners
  - Send announcement to faculty, staff, and students
  - Copy to Dean, Provost, Chancellor, and President
  - Copy to your contact at the News Bureau (and Public Affairs if appropriate)
  - Announce on unit website, newsletter, and faculty meetings
  - Organize a reception!!



# Chemistry Awards Process

- How does chemistry execute the process?
- How does chemistry navigate selection and fairness?
- How in advance to you work on nominations?
- Who does all the heavy lifting?



# Faculty Awards



Melissa Chan

Major Awards Coordinator

Office of the Provost



# Campus Awards and Honors Committee

- Group of 12-15 senior faculty from diverse areas across campus
- Meets periodically each academic year
- Chair: John Erdman, Professor Emeritus, Food Science and Human Nutrition
- Vice Chair: Lynne Thomas, Associate Professor, University Library





# Campus Awards and Honors Committee

- Internal Awards - the committee reviews nominations for:
  - The Campus Awards for Excellence in Public Engagement
  - The Campus Awards for Excellence in Faculty Leadership
- External Awards – the committee reviews nominees for External Awards
  - Reviews awards, criteria, and guidelines for major national and international awards and prizes
  - Reviews and discusses potential nominees
  - Makes recommendations to Provost



# The Levels of Faculty Awards

- Major National and International Awards & Prizes
- National Academies
- Disciplinary Awards
- Campus Awards
- College Awards
- Departmental Awards



# Major Awards Coordinator

- Coordinate major awards and the awards process for campus
  - Campus Awards & Honors Committee
  - Help identify major awards, honors and prizes
  - Establish timelines
  - Manage campus submission process
  - Assist with nomination development
  - Coordinate/manage nomination submissions
- Provide assistance, resources and tools for units



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## M Tamer Basar

Maybelle Leland Swanlund Endowed Chair Emeritus, [Electrical and Computer Engineering](#)  
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## Honors & Recognition

9 results

Title (ascending) >



### American Academy of Arts and Sciences Member

Basar, M Tamer (Recipient), 2023

*Prize: Member/Fellow*

### American Automatic Control Council President

Basar, M Tamer (Recipient), 2010

*Prize: Other distinction*

### Honorary Doctorate

Basar, M Tamer (Recipient), 2019

*Prize: Prize/Award*



# How I Can Help

- Resources
  - Provide a list of awards of all major societies in field of interest
  - Build a calendar to tackle upcoming award year
  - Assist in establishing award process, creating templates, preparing nominations

# Q&A

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