

# 2015 Governor's Awards for Excellence in Science

The South Carolina Academy of Science (SCAS) recently released a call for nominations for the 2015 Governor's Awards for Excellence in Science. Established in 1985, the Governor's Awards for Excellence in Science, administered by SCAS, are among the highest science honors in our state. The Governor's Awards for Science program was developed to honor an individual or team within the state whose achievements and contributions to science in South Carolina merit special recognition and to promote wider awareness of the quality and extent of scientific activity in South Carolina.

The Office of the Vice President for Research (VPR office) is pleased to accept nominations on behalf of any USC faculty from any USC campus. To streamline the nomination process and help ensure that USC's distinguished scientists have the best possible chance at receiving this honor, each year the VPR office coordinates an internal selection process for the awards, before passing the final nominations for consideration to SCAS. The VPR office then works with the finalists and their nominators to complete SCAS submission requirements.

## Criteria

- The Office of the Vice President for Research will distribute a call for nominations each year via the @UofSC Today newsletter, the RESDEV listserv and our website. Because the guidelines and required materials are subject to change from year to year, we ask that faculty and administrators wait until the call is announced before submitting their nominations.
- Any faculty member or administrator may submit one or more nominations.
- Faculty members may not nominate themselves.
- Nominations can be for one individual scientist, or for a team.
- Candidates should be currently working in South Carolina or have conducted a substantial portion of their work within the state.
- Candidates' contributions may be in any area of science and may be for service to science through non-formal education in the various media, for exemplary exposition at the college or university level, or as an acknowledgement for significant outstanding formal research.

## The Four Available Awards

### **Excellence in Scientific Research**

The award is made to a scientist whose contributions to scientific discovery merit special recognition and have impacted the respective discipline on a national and international basis.



### Young Scientist Award for Excellence in Scientific Research

This award is directed to a gifted young researcher (*only those individuals who have completed no more than 12 years beyond the Ph.D.*) who has demonstrated the potential for major contributions to his or her discipline.

### Excellence in Scientific Awareness

The award is presented to a candidate whose achievements have had significant impact on science education in South Carolina, have promoted wider awareness of science, and are of such high quality that they merit special recognition. These achievements may be in the realm of formal education activities or service to science through non-formal education in the various media. They should impact science education or science awareness on a regional and national basis as well as South Carolina.

### Excellence in Scientific Research at a Predominantly Undergraduate Institution

The award recognizes an individual whose achievements and contributions to science over at least a 10 year period at a predominately undergraduate South Carolina university or college merit special recognition.

## Nomination Procedures

Faculty and administration are invited to submit nominations no later than **5PM – October 27, 2014**. The VPR office will coordinate the internal selections and submit one official USC finalist for each of the awards to SCAS.

To be considered in the internal selection, nominators should submit the following in order as a single PDF on behalf of the nominee:

1. Completed [Nomination Form](#)
2. Nominator's Letter of Nomination (1.5 page limit) – *note: if nominee is chosen as finalist, this letter will serve as the first draft for the official nomination letter from the VPR.*
3. Case Statement (1 page limit) Summarize the achievements on which the nomination is based, specifying the significance of particular contributions to the field of science and to South Carolina. If the nomination is made for the award for Scientific Awareness, be sure to emphasize the candidate's contribution to all educational aspects of science in South Carolina. Nominators are encouraged to collaborate with the nominee to create a concise statement.
4. Nominee's Complete CV

The selected finalists will be notified on or before November 14<sup>th</sup>. The VPR office will work with the finalists and their nominator s to complete the remaining SCAS required nomination materials and submit their nomination to SCAS.

Submit all nomination materials no later than 5PM, October 27, 2014 to

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Detailed award information - [www.scacademysci.org](http://www.scacademysci.org)



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