The Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry invites applications and nominations for the 2020 Distinguished Mentor of the Year award (DMOY): Excellence in undergraduate research mentorship. Each year, one university-wide award will be given based on the undergraduate research engagement in the previous year. One $2,500 award will be made to one faculty to honor excellence in mentorship of undergraduate research students. The Distinguished Mentor of the Year will be recognized at the Annual Honors Convocation.

Eligibility

- Any permanent, full-time faculty including tenured/tenure track faculty, non-tenured faculty, instructors, multi-year appointees, scientist/scholars, and research faculty who have been employed for one continuous year.
- Faculty must have engaged as direct mentors of students in undergraduate research and inquiry, to include co-curricular (e.g. grants, publications, presentations), curricular (e.g. RI Courses, DIR and DIS), as well as individual and group student mentoring.
- Previous award winners are no longer eligible.

Process and Timeline

- Applications/nominations are to be made to the dean/designee, containing information provided in the guidelines below. **Self-nominations are encouraged.**
- Faculty will be asked to submit their complete applications directly to the College Dean’s office. Deadline date for faculty applications to Dean’s office is **Wednesday, February 10th, 2021.**
- Each dean/director/designee will determine the nominee from the College, ideally through review by a college committee.
- The College will send forward its nominee by submitting a formal letter of recommendation from the Dean or College designee as well as the faculty’s complete application package to Ms. Patricia Sampedro (psamedr@fau.edu) from OURI. Deadline date for College nominations to OURI is **Wednesday, February 24th, 2021.**
- OURI will share College nominees with FAU’s Honors and Awards Committee, who will review all College nominations, and select one faculty to be awarded the DMOY award.
- The Distinguished Mentor of the Year will be recognized with a $2,500 award and a plaque presented at the Annual Honors Convocation.
Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation is based on the quality and quantity of undergraduate research mentorship conducted by the FAU faculty member over the past one-three years as evidenced by:

1. Dean’s nomination letter
2. Application material provided, which should highlight evidences of undergraduate research mentorship, impact on undergraduate research culture at FAU, and outcomes of undergraduate research mentorship including but not limited to: Number of RI designated courses taught; Peer-reviewed publications, articles, presentations, books, exhibitions including an undergraduate as an author/co-author, presenter/co-presenter etc.; service to support undergraduate research or the culture of undergraduate research
3. Letters from current or past undergraduate mentees

Timetable:

January 25th, 2021 Call for faculty applications/nominations
February 10th, 2021 Complete applications due to the Deans/Directors office
February 24th, 2021 Deans submit College nominee and application materials to OURI
February 26th 2021 Faculty Honors and Awards committee begin review
April 14th, 2021 Award presented at the Honors Convocation

Nomination/ Application Guidelines

- All materials should be submitted as a single PDF document to the Dean’s office
- All materials submitted should highlight the undergraduate research mentorship the faculty conducted within the last three years
- Nomination applications should be organized according to the following categories.

1. A Personal statement (max 2 pages) that include
   a. Statement of undergraduate student mentorship philosophy
   b. Evidences of your undergraduate research mentorship
   c. Impact of undergraduate research on the culture of FAU
2. Two letters of support from undergraduate students research mentees. These may be written from the curricular or co-curricular research perspective (max one page each)
3. A current curriculum vitae highlighting evidences of all undergraduate research and inquiry student involvement, including co-curricular student mentorship, curricular, service and other undergraduate-research related activities.

Final College nominations should also include a letter of nomination from the College Dean/ Director.

More information: http://www.fau.edu/ouri/facultymentor_award.php or Email: Ouri@fau.edu