

2026 UTS Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Research Excellence

Award Category Guidelines

Guidelines for Nomination

The UTS Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Research Excellence were established in 2010 to recognise the outstanding contributions that UTS staff make towards shaping the world we live in. Through its [2030 Strategy](#), UTS is committed to enhancing its reputation as a leading public university of technology, with research excellence and innovation as core tenets of its activities. Through our education, research, and engagement, we will further elevate our international standing, delivering tangible benefits to our communities. The Vice-Chancellor's Research Excellence Awards recognise and together celebrate the efforts of our staff in these endeavours.

General Eligibility and Advice

Please note the following key points:

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- All nominees must be **current UTS employees** or have an honorary appointment at the time of nomination. They should generally have **completed their probation** without any impediments to their **ongoing employment** at UTS.
- All nominees must have been employed at UTS for at least **two years** at the time of nomination. For UTS team nominations, the majority of the team must have worked at UTS for a minimum of two years.
- Casual ongoing staff may be nominated as appropriate.

CATEGORICAL LIMITS

- The nominated research activity **must have been** conducted at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS).
- An individual or team may be nominated for multiple categories in any given year, but **only once per category**. Previous winners are not eligible for nomination in the same category again.
- Previous finalists may resubmit their nomination in the current round, subject to eligibility criteria.
- Nominations that are multi- or cross-disciplinary are strongly encouraged where suitable.
- Each Faculty or Division may submit up to **three nominations** for each category except for the Chancellor's Medal for Research Excellence.
- For team nominations, all parties who played a critical role in the nominated activity should be included in the nomination. This may include academic staff, professional staff, and/or higher degree research (HDR) students.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Attention is drawn to the selection criterion '**Contribution to UTS culture of excellence and research significance**'. This aligns with the University-wide strategy and reflects the behaviours and values, including social justice, that are deemed critical for the University to achieve its vision. All nominations must address this criterion in the application.

- Attention is drawn to the selection criterion '**8 characteristics of research at UTS**'. These eight characteristics are fundamental to the [UTS Research Strategy](#) and are central to how we collectively create and deliver excellence in research support. All nominations must address this criterion in their application.
- All nominees, including those for the Research Management and Development Award category, must maintain a current [Discovery profile](#).
- Late or incomplete applications will be deemed ineligible.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Nominees are responsible for coordinating and submitting their nominations. For teams, a representative nominee must be identified.
- Each nomination requires a nominator. The nominator must not be the nominee or part of a team nomination.
- Nominators can be individuals who are not UTS staff.
- Nominators should possess the appropriate standing and expertise to vouch for the quality of the nominated research and to justify the nomination.
- Nominators must complete the **Statement of Support** to attach to the nomination submitted by the nominees.

ENDORSEMENT CRITERIA

- All nominations must be endorsed by the relevant Associate Dean, Research (ADR), who then advises their respective Dean or Director. The nominee is not obliged to obtain a written endorsement when submitting the nomination. If a nomination is not endorsed, the Dean/Associate Dean (Research) must provide an explanation to the committee regarding the decision. **Note:** This does not apply to [the Chancellor's Medal for Research Excellence Award](#).
- If a nominee or team nomination for the **Research Management and Development Award** originates from the Division of the DVCR, it must be endorsed by the Director of the Research Office, Head of Institution, or Pro Vice-Chancellor of GRS. If a nomination is not endorsed, the RO Director, Head of Institution, or Pro Vice-Chancellor of GRS must provide an explanation for their decision.
- Multi-disciplinary nominations that span more than one faculty or institution must identify the coordinating faculty or institution.

DETAILED SELECTION CRITERIA SPECIFIC TO EACH AWARD CATEGORY ARE OUTLINED UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE CATEGORY HEADINGS.

SUBMISSIONS MUST BE MADE USING THE APPROPRIATE NOMINATION FORM IN SYMPLECTIC.

Judging process

- Submissions will be assessed against the selection criteria for each award or medal category, with research performance and track record evaluated for all nominees.
- Each category will be assessed by a panel of five to six members, chaired by the DVC or PVC Research and consisting of representatives from the academic community, including Deans, Associate Deans, research leaders, academics, past winners, and representatives from research support roles.
- The panel reserves the right to seek further information from nominators and to:
 - Request a nomination for consideration in a different category, subject to the eligibility criteria.
 - Suggest multiple winners when nominations are equally deserving.
 - Recommend that a category **not be awarded** if the quality of the nominations is not sufficiently deserving.
- Following the panel’s decision, the DVC Research will recommend up to three finalists for each prize or medal, including the winner, to the Vice-Chancellor.
- The Vice-Chancellor’s decision is final and not subject to appeal.
- All nominees and nominators are invited to the prize award ceremony. Winners and finalists will be announced during the ceremony, which will occur on the evening of the event.

Prizes

Each medal or award recipient will receive a medal or trophy, a certificate of award, and a financial award that may be added to their nominated UTS research account (to be used for UTS-related research activities within twelve months of the award) or taken as personal income, in which case the normal marginal tax rate applies. If a team wins an award, the prize money will be awarded in multiples of the individual award, capped at \$10,000, and shared equally among the team members. Named external partners and/or collaborators from a winning team will be recognised with a trophy and a certificate. However, **only current UTS employees** are eligible to receive monetary prize awards.

The financial prize awards for each category are:

AUD	Category
\$5,000	Chancellor’s Medal for Research Excellence*
	UTS Medal for Research Impact
	UTS Medal for Excellence in Research and Teaching Integration
\$3,000	Supervisor of the Year Award*
	Early Career Research Excellence Award*
	Research Leadership and Development Award*
	Research Translation Award
	Research Excellence through Collaboration Award
	Research Excellence through Partnership Award
	Research Management and Development Award (Professional Staff)

**Individual award categories only.*

Categories

Research Medals

- Chancellor's Medal for Research Excellence
- UTS Medal for Research Impact
- UTS Medal for Excellence in Research and Teaching Integration

Research Awards

- Supervisor of the Year Award
- Early Career Research Excellence Award
- Research Leadership and Development Award
- Research Translation Award
- Research Excellence Through Collaboration Award
- Research Excellence Through Partnership Award
- Research Management and Development Award (Professional Staff)

Closing Date: 24 July 2026

Chancellor's Medal for Research Excellence

This award honours outstanding research at UTS. The nominated research activities should demonstrate sustained research excellence at the highest level over a period of several years. Nominees must include information about the research underpinning the nomination and provide evidence of the breadth of its contribution. Furthermore, the nomination must address how the research activities contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

KEY CRITERIA:

- Faculties or Institutions may nominate **an individual** for the Chancellor's Medal for Research Excellence award. Anyone seeking consideration for this award should consult with their respective ADR.
- The nominations will be selected by the faculty or institution, who will provide their endorsement to the Office of the DVCR via researchawards@uts.edu.au. Therefore, the relevant faculty or institution must be consulted before submitting the nomination form. Please refer to the Faculty and Institution contact list in Appendix 1.
- For more information on completing the online nomination form in Symplectic and attaching supporting documents, refer to the '*How to submit a nomination form*' guidelines.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (60%)

- Include evidence of excellence in relation to the nominated research and how this excellence has been sustained over a period of several years. This may include information related to measures of esteem, honours and awards/prizes, and any other evaluations of the research which are appropriate to demonstrating excellence.
- Research nominated for this medal must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets (noting that this includes national publishing houses and journals of international standing). Provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.
- Research that has generated non-traditional research outputs is considered under this criterion. Here, nominees should describe these outputs and explain how they enhance our capabilities in, and connections to, creative and professional practice and how they represent research excellence in their field. The nominator should reinforce this assessment of creativity and its related non-traditional research outputs.
- Demonstrate evidence of impact and engagement outside the University as it relates to this research. Research impact is the contribution that research makes to the economy, society, environment, or culture, beyond the contribution to academic research.
- Where applicable, describe how the plan for research impact was developed, who has benefitted from the research, and how it reached the end user ([Click here for a CSIRO case study example](#)).

- Evidence of competitive external research funding, secured either to support the nominated research or awarded because of the successful outcomes of the research, or
- Evidence of external research funding from sources other than competitive grants (e.g., contract research) and the satisfaction of the funder, for example through further funding or written endorsement of their satisfaction.

ORIGINALITY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH (30%)

- Describe the research and demonstrate how it has contributed to new knowledge and to advancing the boundaries of the disciplines.
- Demonstrate how the research is innovative and, where appropriate, how it enhances our expertise in leading practice-based research.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to adhere to the principles of good citizenship, being generous with their help, supporting others and collaborating with colleagues in matters relating to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and working for the benefit of the University as a whole. Examples of good citizenship and conduct are:

- Active engagement with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Creating good working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Fulfilling commitments.
- Adherence to the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at all levels.
- Contributing positively to meetings or training events.
- Showing leadership in the promotion of work/life balance.
- Contributing to a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Provide evidence of adherence to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy identifies [eight characteristics](#) that underlie and motivate how we work and build our careers at UTS. These eight characteristics are core to the UTS Research Strategy and the work of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should identify one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their nominated activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

UTS Medal for Research Impact

This medal is awarded for research that has achieved significant impact beyond the academic community, including within creative and/or professional practices. The definition of impact for this award refers to the contribution that research makes to the economy, society, environment, or culture, beyond its contribution to academic research. Nominees must provide information about the research underpinning the stated impact, the impact itself, and a list of supporting sources. Additionally, the nomination must address how the research activities contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

DETAILS OF THE IMPACT (60%)

- Describe the impact of this research, particularly how it has influenced or benefited the economy, society, environment, or culture, beyond its contributions to academic research.
- Include evidence of the significance of the impact. This should encompass a description of the social, cultural, or other noteworthy impacts achieved due to the public's engagement with the research (e.g., widespread readership of outputs or through media engagement).
- Where applicable, outline how the research impact plan was developed, who has benefited from the research, and how it reached the end user ([Click here for a CSIRO case study example](#)).

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (30%)

- Include evidence of excellence regarding the nominated research. This may encompass information related to measures of esteem, honours and awards or prizes, as well as any other evaluations of the research that are relevant to demonstrating excellence.
- Research nominated for this medal must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets (noting that this includes national publishing houses and journals of international standing). Please provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.
- Creative research practices that have produced non-traditional research outputs are considered under this criterion. Here, nominees should describe these outputs and explain how they exemplify research excellence in their field. The nominator should support this evaluation of non-traditional research outputs.
- Evidence of competitive external research funding, secured either to support the nominated research or awarded due to the successful outcomes of the research, OR
- Evidence of external research funding from sources other than competitive grants (e.g., contract research), as well as the satisfaction of the funder, can be demonstrated through further funding opportunities or written endorsements expressing their contentment.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues in matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.
- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

UTS Medal for Excellence in Research and Teaching Integration

This award recognises an academic or team of academics for their exceptional research and teaching at UTS. Special consideration will be given to those who demonstrate their capability to successfully integrate research, teaching, and learning across various activities. Furthermore, the nomination must address how the research efforts contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE (35%)

- Discuss the innovative methods used in teaching and learning and how they have enhanced learning outcomes.
- Provide evidence of enhanced students' experiences that influence, motivate, and inspire students to learn, achieved through effective teaching practices.
- Provide evidence of publications regarding teaching developments and their influence on the broader community's practices. Include details of these publications, along with citation data where applicable.
- Include evidence of excellence regarding the nominated teaching. This may encompass details related to measures of esteem, honours, awards, prizes, and any other evaluations of the teaching practice that are suitable for demonstrating excellence.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (35%)

- Include evidence of excellence regarding the nominated research. This may encompass information related to measures of esteem, honours and awards or prizes, as well as any other evaluations of the research that are relevant to demonstrating excellence.
- Research nominated for this medal must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets (noting that this includes national publishing houses and journals of international standing). Please provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.
- Creative research practices that have produced non-traditional research outputs are considered under this criterion. Here, nominees should describe these outputs and explain how they exemplify research excellence in their field. The nominator should support this evaluation of non-traditional research outputs.
- Show evidence of impact and engagement beyond the University in relation to this research. Research impact refers to the contributions research makes to the economy, society, environment, or culture, extending beyond its contribution to academic research.
- Explain how the impact was achieved (e.g., how the research was delivered to the end user) and identify those who have benefited.

- Provide evidence in the Discovery profiles of each nominee for:
Competitive external research funding that has been secured either to support the nominated research or awarded due to successful outcomes of the research, OR
External research funding from sources outside of competitive grants (e.g., contract research) and demonstrating funder satisfaction, such as through further funding or written endorsement of their satisfaction.

RESEARCH, LEARNING AND TEACHING INTERRELATEDNESS (20%)

- Explain how the research underpins essential learning areas within the research discipline.
- Demonstrate how the experience in the class has been beneficial for research design.
- Provide examples of research that has effectively blended into teaching practice and the other way around.
- Show how research methods or outcomes have been incorporated into subjects and courses at UTS and further afield.
- Where appropriate, describe how the research demonstrates our capabilities in, and connections to, creative and/or professional practice(s), and supports key learning areas within the research discipline.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues in matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.
- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Research Translation Award

This award recognises a UTS researcher or team (both academic and professional staff) who have demonstrated excellence in translating research for use beyond academia, or who have made substantial and externally validated progress toward a specific translation outcome. Translation takes many forms, and this award is open to all pathways, including but not limited to:

- Translating research into clinical practice and patient care protocols
- Developing new processes, materials, or techniques for product production
- Influencing policy, legislation, or government service delivery
- Facilitating social change through evidence-based interventions
- Influencing or altering professional and creative practices
- Tackling environmental challenges and practices
- Integrating new digital technologies into current products or services
- Commercialising new technologies to disrupt or enhance a sector

A nomination may describe research that has already been adopted by others outside academia, or research that has not yet reached adoption but has made clear, externally validated progress toward a specific translation outcome. In either case, the nomination must tell a convincing story: of excellent research, a deliberate and well-executed translation effort, and meaningful engagement with the people or organisations the research is intended to benefit. Nominations describing progress rather than achieved adoption must demonstrate that progress through concrete external evidence. Internal milestones, applications in preparation, or expressions of informal interest are not sufficient.

Nominees must provide information about the research underpinning the nomination and evidence of the activities and processes undertaken to actively pursue translation. The nomination must explain how the research activities support the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

EFFECTIVE RESEARCH TRANSLATION (40%)

- Explain the end-user problem or opportunity that the research aimed to address, including why it arises, its consequences, and its scale, who is affected, and to what degree.
- Describe the approach taken to proactively translate the research for the benefit of those outside academia, including how external stakeholders and end-users were engaged throughout the process.
- Explain how the original research needed to be adjusted, evolved, or de-risked for it to be effectively adopted or to progress toward adoption.
- Discuss any challenges or obstacles encountered and how they were managed.
- Nominations describing **research that has been adopted** must provide evidence of the research in use: testimonials from end users, copies of relevant agreements, reports or protocols, documented changes to practice, policy or clinical care, or other appropriate demonstrations of adoption and the benefits it has delivered.
- Nominations describing **progress toward adoption** must provide evidence of external validation of that progress. Acceptable evidence includes a formal agreement with a named external

organisation (research contract, MoU, letter of commitment, or equivalent); confirmed co-investment or co-funding from an external organisation; a successful application for translation-oriented funding in which the translation opportunity was central to the case; or formal confirmation from a named external organisation of intent to adopt, licence, or build upon the research. Nominations must clearly describe the specific translation outcome being pursued, the stage of progress reached, and the realistic pathway to adoption. The panel will assess the credibility and significance of the progress made, not the ambition of the intended outcome.

ORIGINALITY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH (30%)

- Describe the fundamental research and illustrate how it has contributed to new knowledge and pushed the boundaries of the discipline.
- Explain the innovative aspects of the research and how it tackles the problem faced by the end user.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (20%)

- Include evidence of excellence in relation to the nominated research. This may include information related to measures of esteem, honours and awards/prizes, and any other evaluations of the research which are appropriate to demonstrating excellence.
- Research nominated for this award must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets (noting that this includes national publishing houses and journals of international standing). Provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.
- Research that has generated non-traditional research outputs is considered under this criterion. Here, nominees should describe these outputs and explain how they represent research excellence in their field. The nominator should reinforce this assessment of non-traditional research outputs.
- Research that enhances our expertise in leading practice-based research.
- Evidence of:
 - Competitive external research funding, either secured to support the nominated research or awarded due to the successful outcomes of that research, OR
 - External research funding from sources other than competitive grants (e.g., contract research) and ensuring the funder's satisfaction, such as through additional funding or written endorsement of their contentment.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues in matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.

- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Supervisor of the Year Award

Quality supervision is crucial to the success of any research candidature, including the timely completion of milestones and the development of suitable academic and research integrity practices. This award recognises an exceptional research supervisor and the vital role they play in supporting the research achievements and development of talented Higher Degree Research candidates. Nominees (research supervisors) must be nominated by a former student or a current student who has submitted the final draft of their thesis and is awaiting the outcome. The thesis submission must be the final submission after an assessor review has taken place, and all revisions to the thesis have been made. Nominations in Symplectic must be completed by the nominee (research supervisor), and the former student or current student must fill out the Nominator's Statement of Support. Only one nomination per supervisor will be accepted; therefore, it is important for nominators to coordinate support for the application among their peers.

The performance of nominees should be described in relation to each of the criteria below. It is crucial that descriptions indicate how the nominees' activities demonstrate excellence regarding the criteria. Moreover, the nomination must address how the research activities contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

SUSTAINED AND OUTSTANDING RESULTS OF SUPERVISION (25%)

- Please provide evidence of sustained and outstanding results from the nominated supervisor, such as whether students from diverse backgrounds have been encouraged to pursue a doctorate. What achievements have the research students accomplished?
- Provide evidence of the nominee delivering constructive employment and career advice after graduation.

SUPERVISION INNOVATION (25%)

- Please provide evidence of the pioneering approach taken by the nominated supervisor. What has the nominee accomplished that goes above and beyond what is expected of a good supervisor?
- How have they employed the UTS supervisory panel approach to deliver innovative and high-quality supervision?

DEDICATION (20%)

- Provide clear evidence of the nominee's enthusiasm for the role and their willingness to go the extra mile to assist students in navigating challenges, whether academic or otherwise.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP (20%)

- Provide evidence of the nominee's efforts in constructively challenging students intellectually and assisting them in making significant contributions to their academic field.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues in matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.
- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Early Career Research Excellence Award

This award is for an outstanding piece of research conducted by an early career researcher (ECR). Nominees are eligible for this award if, at the closing date for nominations, no more than five years have passed since the conferral of their PhD. The research submitted for consideration should demonstrate excellence relative to both the duration of the career and available opportunities.

Nominees must provide information about the research underpinning their nomination and present evidence of its broad contributions to the research field. The assessment also considers the nominee's potential to become a research leader. Furthermore, the nomination must discuss how the research activities contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

Consideration will be given to an eligibility exemption for verifiable career disruptions. Eligible career disruptions align with those endorsed by the [Australian Research Council](#).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

ORIGINALITY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESEARCH (30%)

- Describe the research and demonstrate how it has contributed to new knowledge and to advancing the boundaries of the discipline.
- Describe how the research is innovative.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (30%)

- Include evidence of excellence in relation to the nominated research. This may include information related to measures of esteem, honours and awards/prizes, and any other evaluations of the research which are appropriate to demonstrating excellence.
- Research nominated for this medal must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets (noting that this includes national publishing houses and journals of international standing). Provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.
- Research that has generated non-traditional research outputs is considered under this criterion. Here, nominees should describe these outputs and explain how they represent research excellence in their field. The nominator should reinforce this assessment of non-traditional research outputs.
- Research which enhances our expertise in leading practice-based research.
- Demonstrate evidence of impact and engagement outside the University as it relates to this research. Research impact is the contribution that research makes to the economy, society, environment, or culture, beyond the contribution to academic research.

- Where applicable, describe how the plan for research impact was developed, who has benefitted from the research, and how it reached the end user ([Click here for a CSIRO case study example](#)).
- Evidence of:
 - Competitive external research funding, secured either to support the nominated research or awarded because of the successful outcomes of the research, OR
 - External research funding from sources other than competitive grants (e.g., contract research) and the satisfaction of the funder, for example through further funding or written endorsement of their satisfaction.

FUTURE RESEARCH LEADER (30%)

- Provide evidence of:
 - Building peer and external networks.
 - Community outreach.
 - The nominee’s developing leadership capabilities.
 - The nominee’s efforts to champion junior researchers.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

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- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University’s policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.
- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Research Leadership and Development Award

This award aims to recognise and encourage an **individual researcher** who is on the path to becoming a research leader. The nominee is typically a mid-career researcher (approximately 5-15 years post-PhD) who demonstrates evidence of being a research leader and a champion of research development. Evidence of the nominee's research excellence will be evaluated. Additionally, the nomination must explain how the research activities contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

Leadership and Development activities (60%)

Provide evidence of:

- A research vision that has delivered results.
- Teamwork, mentoring and training of peers, early career researchers and research degree students.
- How the nominee has helped integrate younger researchers into the wider research community, within and beyond their own research community and UTS, including post PhD employment.
- How the nominee has implemented innovative skills development programs and supported broader programs for researcher development outside their immediate unit.
- The nominee's contributions to the development and strengthening of institutional and local ECR strategy and policy.
- The nominee's capacity for building peer networks and external collaborations.

Research excellence (30%)

- Include evidence of excellence regarding the nominated research. This may encompass information related to measures of esteem, honours, and awards/prizes, along with any other relevant evaluations of the research that appropriately demonstrate excellence.
- Research nominated for this medal must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets, which includes national publishing houses and journals of international standing. Please provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.
- Research that has generated non-traditional research outputs is considered under this criterion. Nominees should describe these outputs and explain how they represent research excellence in their field. The nominator should reinforce this assessment of non-traditional research outputs.
- Demonstrate evidence of impact and engagement outside the University as it relates to this research. Research impact is the contribution that research makes to the economy, society, environment, or culture, beyond the contribution to academic research.
- Where applicable, describe how the plan for research impact was developed, who has benefitted from the research, and how it reached the end user ([Click here for a CSIRO case study example](#)).

- Provide evidence of competitive external research funding, secured either to support the nominated research or awarded because of the successful outcomes of the research, OR
- Evidence of external research funding from sources other than competitive grants (e.g., contract research) and the satisfaction of the funder, for example through further funding or written endorsement of their satisfaction.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues in matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.
- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Research Excellence through Collaboration Award

This is awarded to a UTS researcher or a team of UTS researchers who have developed and maintained a research collaboration, either within UTS or with researchers from other universities and/or research organisations. This collaboration must have led to significant outcomes, particularly in the creative industries or practices. The award will recognise outstanding research that involves a multi- or trans-disciplinary team of collaborators across two or more UTS faculties or units in disciplines that are traditionally unrelated. Nominations must highlight how the research activities contribute to UTS's culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

Eligibility

The research entered may be a single project or a program of research. External collaborators should not be included as nominees; however, the nomination must include a letter of support from the external collaborator describing the outcomes and benefits of the collaboration. This must not exceed two pages.

Selection criteria:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

COLLABORATION (40%)

- Demonstrate the strength of the collaboration and evidence of teamwork.
- Provide evidence of leadership within the collaboration.
- Describe how the research outcomes were only possible because of the collaboration.

RESEARCH SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT (30%)

- Demonstrate evidence of the collaboration, and the benefits and impact that it brings to the University.
- Provide evidence of learning experiences being shared for use in future collaborations.
- Provide evidence of output/outcomes from the collaboration including publications, research quality metrics and impact on society/industry e.g., citations, external research funding, industry scholarships and supervision of research degree candidates, which resulted from this collaboration.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (20%)

Include evidence of:

- Excellence in relation to the nominated research. This may include information related to measures of esteem, honours and awards/prizes, and any other evaluations of the research, which are appropriate to demonstrating excellence.
- Research nominated for this medal must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets (noting that this includes national publishing houses and journals of

international standing). Provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.

- Research that has generated non-traditional research outputs is considered under this criterion. Here, nominees should describe these outputs and explain how they represent research excellence in their field. The nominator should reinforce this assessment of non-traditional research outputs.
- Where applicable, describe how the plan for research impact was developed, who has benefitted from the research, and how it reached the end user ([Click here for a CSIRO case study example](#)).
- Provide evidence of competitive external research funding, secured either to support the nominated research or awarded because of the successful outcomes of the research; or
- Evidence of external research funding from sources other than competitive grants e.g., contract research and the satisfaction of the funder, for example through further funding or written endorsement of their satisfaction.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues in matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.
- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Research Excellence through Partnership Award

This award is given to a UTS researcher or a team of UTS researchers who have developed and maintained a research partnership resulting in significant outcomes, particularly in creative industries or practices. This award category aims to recognise outstanding research involving external partnerships with industry, community groups, governments, councils, NGOs, and not-for-profit organisations – collaborating with individuals and organisations that are primarily not engaged in research themselves. The nomination must demonstrate how the research activities contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

Eligibility

The research may consist of a single project or a program of research. External partners should not be included as nominees; however, the nomination must include a letter of support from the external partner outlining the outcomes and benefits of the partnership. This letter should not exceed two pages.

Selection criteria:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

COLLABORATION (40%)

- Demonstrate the strength of the partnership and evidence of teamwork.
- Provide evidence of leadership within the partnership.
- Describe how the research outcomes were only possible because of the partnership.

RESEARCH SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT (30%)

- Provide evidence of the partnership, along with the benefits and impact it brings to the University.
- Share evidence of learning experiences for future partnerships.
- Provide evidence of the output and outcomes from the partnership, including publications, research quality metrics, and the impact on society and industry. For example, this may include citations, external research funding, industry scholarships, and supervision of research degree candidates that resulted from this partnership.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (20%)

Include evidence of:

- Excellence concerning the nominated research may encompass information relating to measures of esteem, honours and awards/prizes, and any other evaluations of the research that are relevant to demonstrating excellence.
- Research nominated for this medal must have been published in internationally respected, externally refereed outlets, which includes national publishing houses and journals of

international standing. Please provide details of these publications, including citation data where appropriate.

- Research that has produced non-traditional outputs falls under this criterion. Here, nominees should outline these outputs and explain how they exemplify research excellence in their field. The nominator should bolster this evaluation of non-traditional research outputs.
- Where applicable, outline how the research impact plan was developed, who has benefitted from the research, and how it reached the end user ([Click here for a CSIRO case study example](#)).
- Provide evidence of competitive external research funding, secured to either support the nominated research or awarded due to the successful outcomes of the research; or
- Evidence of external research funding from sources other than competitive grants, such as contract research, and the satisfaction of the funder, for instance through further funding or written endorsement of their satisfaction.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues in matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.
- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Research Management and Development Award (Professional Staff)

For an outstanding contribution or initiative in support services that has enhanced research capability and/or development at either Faculty, School, Discipline, Institute, or UTS level. This award is open to individuals or teams of **professional staff** across UTS who promote research excellence. Furthermore, the nomination must detail how the research activities contribute to the UTS culture of excellence and align with one or more of the [Eight Characteristics of Research at UTS](#).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Nominations must address each of the following criteria.

INITIATIVE (30%)

Describe how the nominee/team has:

- Demonstrated leadership within their team or across the UTS research community.
- Demonstrated creativity in the research development initiative and/or research capability at UTS.
- Developed or enhanced processes and procedures.

PERFORMANCE (CONTRIBUTION) (30%)

- Provide evidence that the quality of work or service delivered by the nominee or team has exceeded the normal responsibilities of the position and has resulted in successful outcomes for the associated research program or team.
- Demonstrate a significant and sustained effort to improve systems and bolster support.

RELATIONSHIP EXCELLENCE (30%)

- Provide evidence of a proven ability to establish and sustain productive collaborative relationships and research networks throughout UTS.
- Demonstrate the strength of the partnership and provide evidence of teamwork.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UTS CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE (5%)

As a member of the UTS community, staff are expected to uphold the principles of good citizenship by being generous with their assistance, supporting others, and collaborating with colleagues on matters related to research, learning and teaching, knowledge transfer, and contributing to the overall benefit of the University. Examples of good citizenship and conduct include:

- Actively engaging with colleagues and accepting delegated responsibilities.
- Building positive working relationships with colleagues and others.
- Meeting obligations.
- Compliance with the University's policies.
- Respect for colleagues at every level.
- Making a positive contribution to meetings or training events.
- Demonstrating leadership in promoting work-life balance.

- Fostering a culture of peer support and mentoring.
- Supply evidence of commitment to the principles of good citizenship.

ALIGN WITH THE EIGHT CHARACTERISTICS OF RESEARCH AT UTS (5%)

The UTS Research Strategy outlines [eight characteristics](#) that underpin and inspire our work and career development at UTS. These characteristics are fundamental to the UTS Research Strategy and the roles of academic staff, professional staff, and Higher Degree Research students. Nominees should select one or more of these characteristics and briefly explain how their chosen activities reflect that/those characteristic(s).

Appendix 1

Faculty and Institution contact list for the Chancellor's Medal for Research Excellence

Nominees for the Chancellor's Medal for Research Excellence should contact the relevant person listed below, to ensure that their nomination will be supported.

Faculty	Associate Dean (Research)	Contact Details
UTS Business School	Prof. Kathy Walsh (30/6) Prof. Isa Hafalir (1/7)	Kathleen.Walsh@uts.edu.au Isa.Hafalir@uts.edu.au
Faculty of Design and Society	Prof. Janice Rieger	Janice.Rieger@uts.edu.au
Faculty of Engineering and IT	Prof. Kaska Musial-Gabrys	Katarzyna.Musial-gabrys@uts.edu.au
Faculty of Law	Dist. Prof. Shaunnagh Dorsett	Shaunnagh.Dorsett@uts.edu.au
Faculty of Health	Prof. Angela Dawson	Angela.Dawson@uts.edu.au
Faculty of Science	Dist. Prof. Alaina Ammit	Alaina.Ammit@uts.edu.au
TD School	Asso. Prof. Fanny Salignac	Fanny.Salignac@uts.edu.au

Institute	Institute Contact	Contact Details
Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education & Research	Dr. Lachlan McDaniel	Lachlan.Mcdaniel@uts.edu.au
Institute for Sustainable Futures	Melita Grant	Melita.Grant@uts.edu.au
Institute for Public Policy and Governance	Tish Creenaune	Tish.Creenaune@uts.edu.au
Human Technology Institute	Prof. Sally Cripps	Sally.Cripps@uts.edu.au