

**Aston Excellence Award
for
Outstanding Researcher of the Year**

Aston Excellence Awards are given to recognise outstanding contribution towards the achievement of Aston's mission. Award winners for 'Outstanding Researcher of the Year' will be able to demonstrate how they have made a sustained and significant contribution over a number of years both to their field of research and to the reputation of the university in this field.

Criteria For Excellence – Outstanding Researcher of the Year

Nominations should show:

1. Individual Excellence

Evidence of an established significant international standing in their chosen area of research.

Evidence will be discipline specific but could include:

- a) Having obtained recent significant support for their research, or for their research group, from appropriate funding bodies.
- b) Having an outstanding up-to-date output record relative to their subject norms. This might include, as appropriate, published work (including citations), patents, novel and ground-breaking developments.
- c) International recognition of their work from peers. This might include recent or current invitations to contribute as keynote speakers at conferences, elections to significant posts or bodies within their field.

2. Research leadership

Evidence of being a leader in the context of their research by:

- a) Being recognised by their peers as being an international leader in the field;
- b) Setting the research agenda within their research group/team, and beyond;
- c) Leading a research team; creating an environment where other researchers can reach their potential.

Process for submitting nominations to the University Panel:

1. Only one nomination per School can be submitted. Executive Deans should select the most appropriate candidate to put forward.
2. The submission to the internal University Panel comprises one document:
A statement of how the nominee demonstrates excellence relevant to the award criteria. **It is essential** that nominations make **reference to** examples of supporting evidence. Evidence of the impact can be appended to the submission itself, but this should not be excessive in length.

A template, if required for this statement is available via the Staff and Graduate Development website (www.aston.ac.uk/staff/staffdev/awards/). A paper copy of this template is available from Sarah Hosten, Staff and Graduate Development, Room 728, Main Building.

3. Each page should contain the nominee's name and the sponsor's name (i.e. the person submitting the nomination).
4. **A single copy** of the document, unstapled and single-sided, should be submitted to Sarah Hosten, Staff and Graduate Development by **12 noon on 18th May 2012**. Late applications will not be accepted.
5. Nominations will be considered by a Panel. Nominees and their sponsors, will be notified of the outcome by 15th June 2012.
6. Any queries about completing the submission should be addressed to Sarah Hosten, Staff and Graduate Development, s.j.hosten@aston.ac.uk.

April 2012