

| <b>Distinguished Researcher Award Policy</b> |  |
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| Policy Author                                | University Council   |
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| History                                      | The Policy was reviewed and approved by the UC on 09 <sup>th</sup> October 2024. |

# Distinguished Researcher Award Policy

## A. Introduction

Al Yamamah University since its beginning, has strived to promote excellence in teaching and research. Recognition of faculty members who are involved in the promotion of scientific knowledge and working hard to promote the visibility of the institutions through research and knowledge transfer, is extremely important and the management of the University acknowledges this by promoting faculty members to higher ranks, reducing their teaching load, salary increments and one-off compensation in terms of a cash award alongside certificates, medals or shields. Considering the importance of creating competitiveness among the faculty members and fairness in the allocation of research excellence award, this policy document sets parameters and procedures for the evaluation and allocation of the 'Distinguished Researcher Award'. Given the diversity among colleges in research activities and standards, a faculty member with the highest score from each college shall win an award in this regard.

## B. Evaluation Procedure

Research committee from each college are expected to evaluate faculty members in relation to research output/activities (numbers, quality, citations, and collaboration) for the award as per the announced deadline by the Director of Research.

## C. Eligibility Conditions

- 1. Faculty Eligibility:** Faculty members who have fulfilled all the criteria of the award are eligible for consideration by the college research committee. Faculty members also have the right to appeal and request clarification on the procedures followed in the nomination process.



2. **Award Recurrence:** Faculty members who have not received the award in the past three years are eligible for consideration for the award.
3. **Work Affiliation:** To be eligible for the award, the work submitted must clearly state YU affiliation. Double affiliation is acceptable, provided the faculty is the first author of the research pieces considered for evaluation.
4. **Ethical Conduct:** Faculty members who maintain ethical conduct in performing and publishing research are eligible for nomination and to retain their awards. YU reserves the right to uphold the nomination and award, ensuring that no malpractice or unethical behavior has occurred, either before or after the award is given. Faculty members who adhere to these standards will remain eligible for future awards from YU management.

#### **D. Evaluation Criteria**

The faculty should have been YU's faculty member for a minimum period of three years. Prize winners are to be decided by each college research committee based on a set formula. An example is provided below (Table 1) in this regard. The quality of the published research is to be determined by the college research committee. The faculty member achieving the highest score in the college is recommended to be the winner of distinguished researcher award. In case of tie, research committee/dean of the college looks into other contributions of the faculty such as reviewership of journal articles, contribution to book chapters, guest speaker in a conference, participation in conferences and faculty research seminar series or any other activity related to research promotion in the university or other platforms of visibility enhancement of the institution.



**Table 1 Research evaluation and scoring mechanism**

| Number of Publication                            |             |             |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Weight   | Candidate 1 | Candidate 2 | Candidate 3 | Candidate 4 |
| 30%  | A           | B           | C           | D           |
| nb Pub   | 7           | 5           | 4           | 6           |
| Maximum  | 7           | 7           | 7           | 7           |
| Score  | 100         | 71.43       | 57.14       | 85.71       |
| Research Quality                                 |             |             |             |             |
| Weight   | Candidate 1 | Candidate 2 | Candidate 3 | Candidate 4 |
| 20%  | A           | B           | C           | D           |
| High quality                                     | 3           | 2           | 2           | 4           |
| Maximum  | 7           | 5           | 4           | 6           |
| Score  | 42.86       | 40.00       | 50.00       | 66.67       |
| Research Collaboration with colleagues within YU |             |             |             |             |
| Weight   | Candidate 1 | Candidate 2 | Candidate 3 | Candidate 4 |
| 30%  | A           | B           | C           | D           |
| Collaboration                                    | 2           | 3           | 4           | 4           |
| Maximum  | 7           | 5           | 4           | 6           |
| Score  | 28.57       | 60.00       | 100.00      | 66.67       |
| Citation (h-Index)                               |             |             |             |             |
| Weight   | Candidate 1 | Candidate 2 | Candidate 3 | Candidate 4 |
| 20%  | A           | B           | C           | D           |
| h-Index  | 20          | 12          | 8           | 4           |
| Maximum  | 20          | 20          | 20          | 20          |
| Score  | 100         | 60.00       | 40.00       | 20.00       |
| Total score                                      | 67.14       | 59.43       | 65.14       | 63.05       |

**E. Procedures**

1. February - Start of scoring and nomination by each college.
2. March – Approval by the Scientific Council.
3. March - Adopting the Council’s recommendations by the President’s Office.
4. Announcing of results in a graduation ceremony.

## F. Award Components

The award is comprised of the following components

1. Certificate of appreciation
2. Cash prize: 10,000/- SR (Ten Thousand Saudi Riyals) for each winner.

## G. Restrictions

Faculty who are part of the top management such as Research Director, Dean, VP and President would not be nominated for the distinguished researcher award due to potential conflict of interest.

### Exceptions:

The University Council reserves the right to decide on any situation/circumstances outside the conditions stated in this policy.

### Authorization:

This policy was authorized by:



University President

Date: 27-10-2024