

COLLEGE OF FOREST RESOURCES

Early Career Achievement Award

The College of Forest Resources will initiate an Early Career Achievement Award which will serve as a distinction bestowed upon a “junior” faculty member with the rank of Assistant Professor in the College of Forest Resources (CFR). This Award will be based on a distinguished record of teaching, research, and service within the College that shows profound promise regarding advancement within the individual's profession and the College. A minimum of one year of service at Mississippi State University (MSU) is necessary for consideration.

One Early Career Achievement Award will be made annually, and will be recognized at the Advisory Board Banquet typically held in the fall. Recipients will receive a one-time honorarium of \$1,500.

PROCEDURES

I. Eligibility for nomination

- A. Must be a faculty member with teaching, research, and/or service responsibilities (expectations) in a department in CFR/FWRC.
- B. Must have a minimum of one year of service at MSU on a full-time basis.
- C. Must be currently employed full time by CFR/FWRC
- D. Must carry the rank of Assistant Professor, Assistant Research Professor, or Assistant Extension Professor.

Note: These criteria will effectively exclude from eligibility:

- instructors, associate professors, and professors
- part-time personnel, retirees, adjunct faculty, emeritus faculty

II. Nomination procedure

A. Nomination of candidates for an "Early Career Achievement Award" will originate with the nominee's home department. The nomination, along with appropriate documentation, will be forwarded to the Dean's office.

a. Nomination of one candidate from each department will be made by the department head of the respective department.

(1) All eligible candidates within the department will be considered.

(2) Data from the most recent (up to 3 years) annual reviews of each candidate will be included.

b. Three nominations (one from each department) will be sent to the Dean's office with appropriate documentation. Documentation will consist of:

- (1) Letter of support from Department Head
- (2) Curriculum vitae, accomplishment completed since arrival at MSU will be in bold.
- (3) Most recent MSU annual reviews (up to three).

III. Selection Criteria

A. The following criteria will be used by each department head in selecting his/her respective candidates:

- a. Demonstrated excellence in teaching, scholarship/research/creative endeavors, and service,
- b. Evidence of a growing national reputation,
- c. Fostered interdisciplinary activity in research, teaching, and/or service,
- d. Proposed and funded research from competitive sources (e.g., NRI, NSF, NIH, USDA),
- e. Demonstrated desire for professional development.
- f. Evidence of innovative programs in research, teaching, and extension/outreach,
- g. Participation in graduate education with M.S. and Ph.D. students.
- h. Evidence of strong collegiality.

B. Nominations are due to the Dean by October 15.

C. The Dean will select the award recipient following consultation with the CFR Administrative Council.

D. Award will be announced during the fall Advisory Board meeting.