The Hellmuth Prizes for Achievement in Research

Research in the academic setting - the discovery and integration of new knowledge, the development of new theory and concepts, and the creative work of our artists - is one of the defining hallmarks of a university. Western University has many faculty members with outstanding international reputations for their contributions in research. Often, these kinds of contributions are not fully appreciated outside of the apparent boundaries of the discipline.

The Hellmuth Prizes for Achievement in Research provides a way for all members of the Western community to appreciate and celebrate research achievement of our most distinguished faculty members.

There are two such prizes offered annually, one in the area broadly defined as the natural sciences and engineering (research that would be supported by NSERC or CIHR) and one in the social sciences and humanities (research that would in general fall under the mandate of SSHRC). There are roughly equal numbers of faculty members in each eligible group.

The Hellmuth Prizes are named in honour of Bishop Isaac Hellmuth (1817-1901), who can be regarded as the founder of Western University. Working with Bishop Benjamin Cronyn, Hellmuth founded Huron College in 1863, and his personal foresight and dedication led to the granting of the charter for "The Western University of London, Ontario" in 1878. Hellmuth later served as Western's first Chancellor (1878-84).

The Hellmuth Prizes (consisting of a plaque and a $1500 cash award) will be presented at a public ceremony, with each winner making a short address. The Hellmuth Prize Winners are introduced at the Spring Convocation of the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

The Hellmuth Prizes are intended to recognize achievement over a substantial body of work. There are no restrictions as to age or rank, but the recipient must be currently active in research or scholarly work.

Each Faculty may submit no more than one candidate for each Prize. The Faculty may develop internal procedures for the selection of its nominee(s). While unsuccessful nominations are not automatically considered in subsequent years, the selection committee may specifically invite resubmission of certain nominations. These re-nominations shall be in addition to the normal quota of the Faculty.

The awards will be adjudicated by a selection committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research). The committee will have appropriate balance to enable adjudication across

broad research disciplines. Six members will be named by the University Research Board. The Society of Graduate Students will be invited to name one member, and the Vice-President (Research) will invite one member of the external community to join the committee.

Nominations will be received by Western Research until February 1ˢᵗ 2021. Each nomination file must be compiled into one .pdf document and emailed directly to rwprizes@uwo.ca.

In all cases, it must be assumed that the nominations will be read and evaluated by persons who are not authorities in the particular field. A complete nomination package includes the following:

- A covering letter (one page), signed by the Dean, briefly explaining the particular significance of the research contributions of the nominee (It may be useful to highlight a few specific publications or other contributions that justify the nomination.);

- A one-two page Nomination Rationale:
    - A detailed narrative of the candidate's career, indicating why s/he is deserving of the prize,
    - Outlines how and why the candidate's work is original and significant,
    - Provides any evidence of national and international impact of the candidate's career and their reputation,
    - May include links to online materials;

- A Lay Summary of up to 100 words (primarily used for promotional material);

- Up to three objective letters of support. It would be most useful to the selection committee if the letters are from experts outside of Western in order to highlight the significance and impact of the nominee's research beyond the university;

- A current CV including a list of publications.

Past Prize Winners:

1997	Alan Davenport Faculty of Engineering	Ian Steele Faculty of Social Science
1998	William Fyfe Faculty of Science	Tom Lennon Faculty of Arts & Humanities
1999	Michael Bancroft Faculty of Science	David Laidler Faculty of Social Science
2000	Richard Puddephatt Faculty of Science	Regna Darnell Faculty of Social Science
2001	Michael Locke Faculty of Science	Tilottama Rajan Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2002	Grant McFadden Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	Angela Esterhammer Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2003	Peter Norton Faculty of Science	Marilyn Randall Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2004	Robert Hegele Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	David Bentley Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2005	Ian Mitchell Faculty of Science	Richard Vernon Faculty of Social Science
2006	Mel Goodale Faculty of Social Science and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	Joy Parr Faculty of Information and Media Studies
2007	Rajni Patel Faculty of Engineering	William Fisher Faculty of Social Science
2008	Aaron Fenster Robarts Research Institute Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	Patrick Mahon Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2009	Brian Feagan Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	John Whalley Faculty of Social Science
2010	Gregor Reid, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	Heather Laschinger Faculty of Health Sciences
2011	Ann Chambers Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	Michael Groden Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2012	Terry Peters Robarts Research Institute Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	John Meyer Faculty of Social Science
2013	Adrian Owen Faculty of Social Science and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	Paul Beamish Ivey Business School
2014	Stewart Harris Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry	Charles Weijer Faculty of Arts & Humanities and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry
2015	Shiva Singh Faculty of Science	Bob Young Faculty of Social Science
2016	Jesse Zhu Faculty of Engineering	John Leonard Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2017	Tsun-Kong (TK) Sham Faculty of Science	Kathryn Brush Faculty of Arts & Humanities
2018	Gail Atkinson Faculty of Science	Maya Shatzmiller Faculty of Social Science

2019	Xueliang (Andy) Sun Faculty of Engineering	Peter Jaffe Faculty of Education
2020	Jeremy McNeil Faculty of Science	Cheryl Forchuk Faculty of Health Sciences