Program Overview

The UCF Research Incentive Awards (RIA) program supports outstanding research, scholarly, and creative activity that advances the body of knowledge in a particular field, including interdisciplinary research and collaborations. This award recognizes faculty contributions to UCF’s key goal of achieving international prominence in research and creative activities.

Each year the university awards up to 20 new RIA awards. These awards are equally apportioned among the colleges and research Centers & Institutes (C&I). Academic Affairs provides the funding for these awards.

The College of Medicine non-unit faculty are offered awards proportionate to the number of faculty at the college.

Faculty Eligibility

Nominees from the college must be full-time faculty holding tenured, tenure-earning, or multiyear appointments. Continuous service since August 8, 2012, the start of the 2012-13 academic year is required.

No faculty member may be awarded a RIA more than once every five years.

Tenured and tenure-earning C&I faculty members must apply for the awards in the colleges where their tenure resides.

Funding of Awards

Regardless of the contract length (9-months or 12-months), award recipients shall receive a one-time award of $5,000 as soon as practicable, and a $5,000 increase to their salary effective at the beginning of the succeeding academic year.

Recycled Awards

If a Research Incentive Award recipient of a college, or institute or center, leaves university employment, their award will remain within the college, or revert to the vice president for research (C&I awards only) for “recycling.” These
recycled awards will become additional UCF Research Incentive Awards for the following academic year for that college.

**RIA Committee**

A review committee comprised of eight (8) faculty members, one nominated by the Dean and the seven most recent RIA winners will select the recommended awardees. Candidates for an award are not eligible to serve on peer review committees.

**Criteria**

Criteria for evaluating applications will include the following major categories as appropriate for each discipline:

- Value or impact of research and creative efforts both within the discipline and to society;
- Recognition of research and creative efforts by the individual's peers in the same or related disciplines;
- Publication and presentation of research and creative efforts;
- External grant and contract support for the research and creative efforts appropriate to the applicant's discipline;
- All peer review committees should take into consideration the fraction of time assigned (FTE) for research for all applicants.

The provost or provost designee will give the final approval for award recipients. Following provost approval each college, institute, and center will notify all nominees of the results, with an explanation of the unit's reasons for its recommendations.