Edith and Peter O’Donnell Awards

2019

Medicine, Engineering and Science

Nomination Guide
History

The O’Donnell Awards in Medicine, Engineering and Science were established in 2006 to recognize rising Texas researchers who are addressing the essential role that science and technology play in society, and whose work meets the highest standards of exemplary professional performance, creativity and resourcefulness.

In 2008, The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas (TAMEST) added the O’Donnell Award in Technology Innovation to recognize individuals or research teams from non-academic institutions who have made a major innovative technological discovery that has the potential for making a positive impact on society.

Award recipients will be honored at TAMEST’s Annual Conference in January, where they will present their research to attendees and also receive a $25,000 honorarium and medal. Next year’s conference will be held January 14–16, 2019, at the Horseshoe Bay Resort in Horseshoe Bay, Texas, outside of Austin.

Call for Nominations for the 2019 Edith and Peter O’Donnell Awards

TAMEST is now accepting nominations for the 2019 O’Donnell Awards in four categories:

MEDICINE
ENGINEERING
SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

(please refer to the Technology Innovation Award Nomination Guide)
Nomination Guidelines

Nomination Categories
Nominators must choose only one category (medicine, engineering or science) to designate their nominee. The O’Donnell Awards Selection Committee reserves the right to move a nominee into a different category if they feel the nomination is more suitable for that category.

Re-nomination of Candidates from Previous Years
Recent past nominees may be re-nominated by simply checking the “yes” box in the re-nomination section at the top of the nomination form. Although not required, additional or updated information may be submitted for consideration in the 2019 review process.

Research Teams
Research teams may be nominated in any category. In instances where a research team is selected to receive an award, the $25,000 honorarium will be divided evenly among the team members and each will receive a citation and medal.

Nominator Requirements
Qualified nominators include TAMEST members, university presidents, deans, chancellors, provosts and vice presidents for research.

Technology Innovation Award

For information on the Technology Innovation Award, please refer to the Technology Innovation Nomination Guide.

Selection Process

A committee of TAMEST members will evaluate nominations and select finalists in consultation with a panel of National Academies members from outside of Texas and a committee of Texas Nobel Laureates. TAMEST’s Board of Directors provides final approval of the award recipients.

Required Application Materials
(see next page for more details)

• Nominee application form
• Nominator statements: 250-word statement and 50-word summary
• Nominee biosketch and research bibliography
• A list of five (5) of the most important research publications with the highest number of citations and a link to an electronic PDF version of each research publication
• Three (3) letters of support

Content guidelines

Instructions for preparing nominations are meant to serve as guidelines—TAMEST encourages nominators to be innovative in presenting candidate accomplishments. The committee is looking for substantiation of achievements as well as significance of nominee accomplishments.

The application and letters of support must be received by April 30, 2018.

Medicine, Engineering and Science Awards Eligibility Requirements

• Nominees must be within 15 years of their first faculty appointment at the time the awards are given. The 2019 O’Donnell Awards will be presented at the TAMEST Annual Conference on January 15, 2019.
• Nominees must have spent the past two years performing research in Texas.
• For team nominations, all team members must meet award eligibility requirements.
• TAMEST members are not eligible.
Nomination Information Requirements

The information provided in the nomination materials is crucial to the evaluation of the nominee’s achievements. The following components are required to complete the nomination packet:

1. A statement from the nominator (approximately 250 words) defining:
   • the field(s) in which the nominee excels and/or is demonstrating exceptional potential;
   • the particular discoveries or technological developments; and
   • the impact or potential impact supported by relevant metrics.

2. A summary statement (50 words or less) from the nominator.

3. An abbreviated biographical sketch (2–3 pages) including:
   • a summary of education, employment, honors and awards including recognition or awards received from the nominee’s employer;
   • a summary of the nominee’s research interests and activities, including (where applicable) information on grant support (titles, sources and duration) and the role of the nominee in each grant;
   • a synopsis of the nominee’s discoveries and research contributions; and
   • statistics on papers, books and reports.

4. A complete bibliography, including a separate list and electronic PDFs of five (5) of the most important research publications with the most citations. Please include the digital object identifier number (DOI) or a URL to an online PDF version of the documents.

5. Three letters of support from researchers in the nominee’s field from institutions or organizations other than the nominee’s current institution or organization. Letters of support should be no longer than two pages.

The supporting letters should be emailed independently and directly to TAMEST at tamest@austin.utexas.edu. Contact information for the letters of support should be included on the electronic application form.

Deadline for Submission of Nomination Materials

All nomination materials, including letters of support, must be received in electronic format by April 30, 2018.

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE TAMEST OFFICE: Cindy Kralis at 512.232.8495 or ckralis@austin.utexas.edu.

2019 Science Award – Biological Sciences

The O’Donnell Awards Selection Committee will give preference to nominations for research in the biological sciences for the 2019 science award. The Committee will give preference to nominations for research in the physical sciences for the 2020 science award.