Dean’s Engaged Scholarship Award
For Faculty

College of Communication and Fine Arts

This award is intended to recognize professional accomplishment beyond the level routinely expected of college faculty and of such excellence that credit accrues to the department, college, and university, as well as to the faculty member. It is made annually by the Dean of the College of Communication and Fine Arts on the recommendation of the College Council for Graduate Studies and Research and is based on information supplied by the nominees. The annual deadline for nominations is announced in the fall.

I. Definition
Vital to the mission of the College of Communication and Fine Arts are scholarship and creative activity that addresses the concerns and opportunities of our local, regional, and national communities. Such engaged scholarship (1) involves projects that engage faculty members and students in a collaborative and sustained manner with community groups; (2) connects university outreach endeavors with community organizational goals; (3) furthers mutual productive relationships between the university and the community; (4) entails shared authority in the research and creative process from defining the problem to developing the final product; and (5) results in excellence in engaged scholarship and creative activity documented through publications, reviews, photographs, videos, films, letters from community partners, or in some other manner appropriate to the activity.

II. Eligibility
College of Communication and Fine Arts tenure track faculty who have been employed full-time at least three years are eligible for this award. A substantial portion of the creative activity to be awarded must have been completed while employed in the college. Faculty who have won the award are eligible to be nominated again after a five-year lapse of time. There are no limits on how many times past winners may be nominated, but past winners should only submit projects and materials produced since receiving the award previously.

III. Nomination
Faculty may nominate themselves or be nominated by a colleague at The University of Memphis. If not be selected in the first year of application, the nomination will carry over for the next two years. Nominees will be notified that they may submit an updated CV and materials in subsequent years.

IV. Documentation
A letter of nomination along with a one-page narrative describing the nominee’s engagement with the community and highlighting its intent and significance are required. Some examples are: publications, reviews, photographs, videos, films, or letters from community partners. The nominee must submit these materials along with the cover page provided by the college that includes the department chair’s signature. Unless a department chair is acting as the nominator, a letter of support from the chair is not required. A current CV must be provided.

The Award
The award includes a reduced load for one semester, a $500 travel stipend, and an award plaque.