



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

# Awards for Excellence in Graduate Research Training

## 2025 GUIDE



# Awards for Excellence in Graduate Research Training



*At the University of Queensland we take pride in our excellence in research with a tradition of outstanding graduates. This is a tribute to our staff in their support of our HDR candidates and their guidance in supervision but also in providing the university with further collaboration with industry and leadership through research.*

## Message from Dean

The UQ Awards for Excellence in Graduate Research Training provide a platform to publicly recognise the accomplishments and initiatives of our academic and professional colleagues who play a crucial role in helping our HDR candidates reach their full potential.

The Supervision awards recognise outstanding research supervision by both established and emerging advisors. Awardees must demonstrate success in mentoring HDR candidates and a dedication to exemplary research supervision.

The Leadership award recognises individuals outstanding leadership in graduate research training, mentoring HDR Supervisors, and advancing institutional HDR strategy across schools, institutes, and faculties.

Industry Engagement in Graduate Research celebrates supervisors fostering innovation through active collaborations with HDR candidates and industry partners.

Individuals who have provided exceptional service in delivering transformative engagement, support programs, or services in graduate research education receive the Graduate Research Programs and Support award.

The Indigenous Excellence and Empowerment award recognises individuals who have excelled in the Indigenous Graduate Research space, including supervisory practices, support program development, curriculum development, and graduate research support services that promote Indigenous research methods and protocols, meaningful community engagement programs, and cultural responsiveness within higher education.

These awards showcase the talent and innovation of the academic and professional staff who support HDR candidates at UQ.

**Professor Virginia Slaughter**  
Dean, Graduate School

## 2025 Award Categories:

- Graduate Research Supervision
- Graduate Research Supervision (Emerging)
- Graduate Research Leadership
- Promoting Industry Engagement in Graduate Research
- Graduate Research Programs and Support
- Graduate Research Indigenous Excellence and Empowerment

## 2025 Key Dates:

- Nominations open: **Monday 24 March 2025**
- Nominations close: **Sunday 4 May 2025\***
- Nominees advised of outcome: **July 2025**
- **Research and Innovation Week: 8 - 12 September 2025**

**\*Nominations will close strictly at 11:59pm.**

## Questions:

Questions regarding the Awards for Excellence in Graduate Research Training:

Graduate School.  
Level 6, John Hines Building (62)  
The University of Queensland  
St Lucia, QLD 4072, Australia  
9:00am - 4:00pm, Monday - Friday  
Email: [graduateschool@uq.edu.au](mailto:graduateschool@uq.edu.au)  
Phone: +61 7 3346 0503

# Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Training Supervision

## Nomination information

### Who is eligible to be nominated?

All University of Queensland (UQ) academic staff (continuing and fixed-term) with experience in supervising, mentoring and/or training Higher Degree by Research candidates at UQ.

### Who can nominate?

An individual may self-nominate or be nominated by an academic/professional staff member or by an HDR candidate (nominator).

## Eligibility criteria

- A nominee must be a current UQ academic staff member (continuing and fixed term) who has supervised at least five HDR candidates to completion at UQ.
- Previous recipients of the Supervision award are not eligible to receive another award.
- Previously unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated.
- Shortlisted nominees must provide evidence of high-quality research training supervision (see Selection criteria) as well as the requested supporting documentation (see Supporting documentation).

Any award recipient who is no longer employed by UQ at the time of the announcement of the awards will be issued a certificate of recognition, but will not be entitled to an award prize.

## Selection criteria

- Evidence of high quality and innovative research supervision practice. What are the key ingredients of excellent supervision? Please reflect on this question and explain how your answer informs your supervision practice. This may include principal, associate and team supervision.
- Evidence of the impact and outcomes of research supervision, including successful and timely HDR completions and production of research outputs arising from the PhD research. This may also include the promotion of industry engagement and the development of HDR candidate's employability skills and professional networks.
- Evidence of positive post-graduation outcomes of candidates.

**In your nomination please consider the above criteria (where applicable). 300 word limit per criteria. Written in 1st person from perspective of nominee.**

## Selection committees (shortlist/final)

The shortlisting committee will be made up of members of the Faculty or Institute. The final selection committee will be chaired by the Dean of the Graduate School or delegate and consist of past award winners.

### The final selection committee does not take into account:

- The distribution of awards to particular Schools, Institutes and/or Faculties; or
- The outcome of previous unsuccessful nominations.

### The committees will consider evidence of high quality performance by examining:

- Timely completions and withdrawals of candidates under nominee's supervision;
- Number of years supervising;
- Supporting documentation; and
- Written statements from the nominator(s).

## Supporting documentation (shortlisted)

The following supporting documentation will be requested (if not provided already) from shortlisted nominees to provide evidence of high-quality research training supervision:

- Statements addressing each of the selection criteria;
- Academic Curriculum Vitae (brief);
- Supporting statements from current and graduated candidates and academic colleagues; and
- Evidence of particular initiatives or candidates' achievements.



# Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Training Supervision (Emerging)

## Nomination information

### Who is eligible to be nominated?

All University of Queensland (UQ) academic staff (continuing and fixed-term) with experience in supervising, mentoring and/or training Higher Degree by Research (HDR) candidates at UQ.

### Who can nominate?

An individual may self-nominate or be nominated by an academic/professional staff member or by an HDR candidate (nominator).

## Eligibility criteria

- A nominee must be a current UQ academic staff member (continuing and fixed term) who has supervised fewer than five HDR candidates to completion with at least one of those completions at UQ.
- Emerging Advisor Award recipients will be eligible in future for a Supervision Award.
- Previously unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated.
- Shortlisted nominees must provide evidence of high-quality research training supervision (see Selection criteria) as well as the requested supporting documentation (see Supporting documentation).

Any award recipient who is no longer employed by UQ at the time of the announcement of the awards will be issued a certificate of recognition, but will not be entitled to an award prize.

## Selection criteria

- Evidence of high quality and innovative research supervision practice. What are the key ingredients of excellent supervision? Please reflect on this question and explain how your answer informs your supervision practice. This may include principal, associate and team supervision.
- Evidence of the impact and outcomes of research supervision, including successful and timely HDR completions and production of research outputs arising from the PhD research. This may also include the promotion of industry engagement and the development of HDR candidate's employability skills and professional networks.
- Evidence of positive post-graduation outcomes of candidates.

**In your nomination please consider the above criteria (where applicable). 300 word limit per criteria. Written in 1st person from perspective of nominee.**

## Selection committees (shortlist/final)

The shortlisting committee will be made up of members of the Faculty or Institute. The final selection committee will be chaired by the Dean of the Graduate School or delegate and consist of past award winners.

### The final selection committee does not take into account:

- The distribution of awards to particular Schools, Institutes and/or Faculties; or
- The outcome of previous unsuccessful nominations.

### The committees will consider evidence of high quality performance by examining:

- Timely completions and withdrawals of candidates under nominee's supervision;
- Number of years supervising;
- Supporting documentation; and
- Written statements from the nominator(s).

## Supporting documentation (shortlisted)

The following supporting documentation will be requested (if not provided already) from shortlisted nominees to provide evidence of high-quality research training supervision:

- Statements addressing each of the selection criteria;
- Academic Curriculum Vitae (brief);
- Supporting statements from current and graduated candidates and academic colleagues; and
- Evidence of particular initiatives or candidates' achievements.



# Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Leadership

## Nomination information

### Who is eligible to be nominated?

All University of Queensland (UQ) academic staff in a research training leadership role who demonstrate inspirational and effective local graduate research leadership at school, faculty or other academic unit level.

### Who can nominate?

An individual may self-nominate or be nominated by an academic or professional staff member (nominator). Nominations by HDR candidates will not be accepted.

## Eligibility criteria

- A nominee must be a current UQ academic staff member on a continuing or fixed term appointment with no less than 0.4 EFT (or an adjunct appointment) at UQ for a minimum of two years at the time of application.
- Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for renomination within three years of receiving an award.
- Previously unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated.
- Nominees must provide evidence of high quality performance relative to opportunity (see Selection Criteria).

Any award recipient who is no longer employed by UQ at the time of the announcement of the awards will be issued a certificate of recognition, but they will not be entitled to an award prize.

## Selection criteria

- Evidence of initiatives that have enabled a strong and supportive intellectual community for HDR candidates within and beyond their academic unit. What are the characteristics of strong intellectual communities? Please reflect on this question and explain how your answer informs your leadership practice.
- Evidence of your leadership and contribution to the development and maintenance of high quality and innovative HDR and/or skill development programs at Faculty or university level.
- Evidence of effective support and mentoring for HDR supervisors at Faculty or university level.
- Evidence of leadership contributions to the development and strengthening of institutional and local HDR strategy and policy at Faculty or university level.

**In your nomination please consider the above criteria (where applicable). 300 word limit per criteria. Written in 1st person from perspective of nominee.**

## Selection committee (shortlist/final)

The shortlisting committee will be made up of members of the Faculty or Institute. The final selection committee will be chaired by the Dean of the Graduate School or delegate and consist of past award winners.

### The final selection committee does not take into account:

- The distribution of awards to particular Schools, Institutes and/or Faculties; or
- The outcome of previous unsuccessful nominations.

## Supporting documentation (shortlisted)

The following supporting documentation will be requested (if not provided already) from shortlisted nominee to provide evidence of leadership activities.

- Statements addressing each of the selection criteria;
- Academic Curriculum Vitae (brief);
- Supporting statement from current and graduated candidates, academic colleagues and relevant stakeholders; and
- Evidence of particular initiatives of candidates' achievement.



# Award for Excellence in Promoting Industry Engagement in Graduate Research

## Nomination information

### Who is eligible to be nominated?

All University of Queensland (UQ) professional or academic staff (individual or team) who have initiated or supported innovative and transformational engagement between higher degree research candidates and industry partners.

### Who can nominate?

An individual(s) may self-nominate or be nominated by an academic or professional staff member (nominator). Nominations by HDR candidates will not be accepted.

## Eligibility criteria

- A nominee must be a current UQ professional or academic staff member or team who have held a continuing or fixed term appointment at UQ for a minimum of two years at the time of application.
- Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for renomination within three years of receiving an award.
- Previously unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated.
- Nominees must provide evidence of high quality performance relative to opportunity (see Selection Criteria).

Any award recipient who is no longer employed by UQ at the time of the announcement of the awards will be issued a certificate of recognition, but they will not be entitled to an award prize.

## Selection criteria

- Evidence of initiatives that have enabled successful and effective collaborations between HDR candidates and industry partners. What are the characteristics of effective collaborations? Please reflect on this question and explain how your answer informs your practice.
- Evidence of your contributions to the HDR programs and/or supervision that support HDR candidates to develop strong employability skills and widen professional networks, at Faculty or university level.
- Evidence of your involvement in projects or initiatives at Faculty or university level that promote the value of HDR candidates and graduates to industry.

**In your nomination please consider the above criteria (where applicable). 300 word limit per criteria. Written in 1st person from perspective of nominee/s.**

## Selection committee (shortlist/final)

The shortlisting committee will be made up of members of the Faculty or Institute. The final selection committee will be chaired by the Dean of the Graduate School or delegate and consist of past award winners.

### The final selection committee does not take into account:

- The distribution of awards to particular Schools, Institutes and/or Faculties; or
- The outcome of previous unsuccessful nominations.

## Supporting documentation (shortlisted)

The following supporting documentation will be requested (if not provided already) from shortlisted nominee(s) to provide evidence of high quality industry engagement.

- Curriculum Vitae (brief) of the nominee(s);
- Statements addressing each of the selection criteria;
- Supporting statements from at least one industry partner;
- Supporting statement from current and graduated candidates, academic colleagues and relevant stakeholders; and
- Evidence of particular initiatives of candidates' achievement.



# Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Programs and Support

## Nomination information

### Who is eligible to be nominated?

All University of Queensland (UQ) professional or academic staff (individual or team) who have delivered transformational engagement or support programs or services in graduate research education. Nominees must demonstrate their provision of outstanding support for graduate research education through the design, development and implementation of an initiative or support service.

### Who can nominate?

An individual(s) may self-nominate or be nominated by an academic or professional staff member (nominator). Nominations by HDR candidates will not be accepted.

## Eligibility criteria

- A nominee must be a current UQ professional or academic staff member or team who have held a continuing or fixed term appointment at UQ for a minimum of two years at the time of application.
- Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for renomination within three years of receiving an award.
- Previously unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated. Nominees must provide evidence of high quality performance relative to opportunity (see Selection Criteria).

Any award recipient who is no longer employed by UQ at the time of the announcement of the awards will be issued a certificate of recognition, but they will not be entitled to an award prize.

## Selection criteria

1. Details of your involvement in the development of:
  - new initiatives that have enabled the development of strong and supportive; communities of HDR candidates or innovative research training programs; or
  - outstanding service to HDR candidates and supervisory staff with clear impacts or benefits to the graduate research community; or
  - changes or improvements to work practices that impact HDR candidates/programs; or
  - projects or initiatives that promote HDR candidates and programs beyond the University.
2. The aims of the program/initiative at university level and evidence of the outcomes for candidates/supervisors or other stakeholders.
3. Evidence of any change in practice or policy within or beyond the university that have resulted from this project/initiative.

**In your nomination please consider the above criteria (where applicable). 300 word limit per criteria. Written in 1st person from perspective of nominee/s.**

## Selection committee (shortlist/final)

The shortlisting committee will be made up of members of the Faculty or Institute. The final selection committee will be chaired by the Dean of the Graduate School or delegate and consist of past award winners.

### The final selection committee does not take into account:

- The distribution of awards to particular Schools, Institutes and/or Faculties; or
- The outcome of previous unsuccessful nominations.

## Supporting documentation (shortlisted)

The following supporting documentation will be requested (if not provided already) from shortlisted nominee(s) to provide evidence of excellence in graduate research programs and support.

- Curriculum Vitae (brief) of the nominee(s);
- Statements addressing each of the selection criteria;
- Supporting statement from current and graduated candidates and academic colleagues; and
- Evidence of particular initiatives or' achievements.



# Award for Graduate Research Indigenous Excellence and Empowerment

## Nomination information

### Who is eligible to be nominated?

All University of Queensland (UQ) professional or academic staff (individual or team) who have excelled within the Indigenous Graduate Research space. This may include supervisory practices, support program development, curriculum development, and/or graduate research support services e.g. Indigenous research methods and protocol training, meaningful community engagement programs, and/or creating cultural responsiveness within the higher education space.

### Who can nominate?

An individual(s) may self-nominate or be nominated by an academic or professional staff member (nominator). Nominations by HDR candidates will not be accepted.

## Eligibility criteria

- A nominee must be a current UQ professional or academic staff member or team who have held a continuing or fixed term appointment at UQ for a minimum of two years at the time of application.
- Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for renomination within three years of receiving an award.
- Previously unsuccessful nominees may be re-nominated. Nominees must provide evidence of high quality performance relative to opportunity (see Selection Criteria).

Any award recipient who is no longer employed by UQ at the time of the announcement of the awards will be issued a certificate of recognition, but they will not be entitled to an award prize.

## Selection criteria

1. Details of:
  - Initiative/s and/or practice that have demonstrated excellence within the Indigenous Graduate research space, these may include:
    - Supervisory practices;
    - Support program development, curriculum development, and/or graduate research support services e.g. Indigenous research methods and protocol training, meaningful community engagement programs, and/or creating cultural responsiveness within the higher education space.
  - The involvement of the nominee/s in the development of the initiative/s and/or practice.
2. Evidence of how your work outcomes have been translated or could be translated into empowering Indigenous HDR candidates, including how the work strengthens the ability of HDR candidates to conduct research from an Indigenous perspective.
3. Evidence of impact of your work on creating a safe and equitable research space for Indigenous staff and students.

In your nomination please consider the above criteria (where applicable). 300 word limit per criteria. Written in 1st person from perspective of nominee/s.

## Selection committee (shortlist/final)

The shortlisting committee will be made up of members of the Faculty or Institute. The final selection committee will be chaired by the Dean of the Graduate School or delegate and consist of past award winners.

### The final selection committee does not take into account:

- The distribution of awards to particular Schools, Institutes and/or Faculties; or
- The outcome of previous unsuccessful nominations.

## Supporting documentation (shortlisted)

The following supporting documentation will be requested (if not provided already) from shortlisted nominee(s) to provide evidence of excellence within the Indigenous Graduate Research space.

- Curriculum Vitae (brief) of the nominee(s);
- Statements addressing each of the selection criteria;
- Supporting statement from current and graduated candidates and academic colleagues; and
- Evidence of particular initiatives or' achievements.





## Award recipient information

### Announcement of awards

Nominees will be advised by email if they have been selected to receive an award. Nominees will be invited to attend UQ's Research and Innovation Week Awards Ceremony taking place during UQs [Research and Innovation Week](#) in **8 - 12 September 2025** where winners will be announced, presented with their award and recognised for their achievements.

Family members, nominees, nominators, colleagues and supervisors of the finalists may have an opportunity to attend. Please note that the number of attendees will be limited and guest invitations will be dependent on venue capacity.

### Award prizes

The winning individual(s) will receive a certificate of recognition, a trophy and monetary prize. Prizes will be split between team members if awarded to a team.

Payment of the award prize will be made as a one off payment into a research account nominated by the recipient(s). Relevant taxation and superannuation arrangements will apply to one off salary payments.

The winning individual(s) for the supervision, leadership, industry engagement, programs and support, and Indigenous excellence and empowerment categories, will also be put forward for nomination into the corresponding category of the [2026 Australian Council of Graduate Research \(ACGR\) Awards for Excellence in Graduate Research Education](#).

### Award prizes value

- Graduate Research Supervision
  - Supervision - **\$5000**
  - Emerging - **\$4000**
- Graduate Research Leadership - **\$4000**
- Promoting Industry Engagement in Graduate Research - **\$4000**
- Graduate Research Programs and Support - **\$4000**
- Graduate Research Indigenous Excellence and Empowerment - **\$4000**

### Expectations of award recipients

The recipient(s) of an award may be expected to participate in seminars, presentations or act as a mentor to their colleagues. Photos of award recipient(s) may be used for publicity purposes (with permission).

# Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Training - nomination process

1

## Prepare to complete the online nomination form

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Prepare documentation in order to complete the [online nomination form](#). Please note that you need to be logged on to the internet to access this form.

2

## Nominees to complete the online nomination form

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Complete the [online nomination form](#). Ensure all contact details and statements addressing the selection criteria are completed. There is no capacity to save your work and return later. You will be requested to provide:

- The contact details for:
  - yourself (the nominator) and
  - the nominee.
- Statements addressing all selection criteria (300 word limit per criteria).
- Supporting documentation (if applicable).
- Once submitted the nominator will receive an email to confirm the submission has been received.

3

## Shortlist - Faculty/Institute

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When nominations close, each Faculty/Institute will consider all eligible nominations and will select one nominee to put forward to the Graduate School for final selection.

Only shortlisted applicants will be notified of nomination.

4

## Supporting documentation

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The following supporting documentation will be requested (if not provided already) from shortlisted nominee(s):

- Curriculum Vitae (brief) of the nominee(s);
- Statements addressing each of the selection criteria;
- Supporting statement from current and graduated candidates and academic colleagues; and
- Evidence of particular initiatives or achievements.

5

## Final ranking - Graduate School

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All endorsed nominations and supporting documentation will be reviewed by the Selection Committee.

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## Outcome

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Once all eligible nominations are reviewed by the Selection Committee the outcome will be provided via email to shortlisted applicants only.

7

## Awards ceremony

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Nominees will be invited to attend the UQ Research and Innovation Week Awards Ceremony taking place during UQs [Research and Innovation Week](#) in **8 - 12 September 2025**.