

2009-2010 Call for Applications

The Henry Wu Award for Excellence in Basic Research and The James Leonard Award for Excellence in Clinical Research

The Leonard and Wu Awards for Excellence in Research will recognize faculty members & AFRRI scientists who, in the estimation of their peers, have made the most significant published scientific contribution to translational/clinical and basic biomedical research respectively, during the past three years. The recipients of these Awards will give his or her Award Lecture and Symposia named in honor of Drs. Wu and Leonard during the University Research Week. Each recipient will receive a memento and a cash award of \$2,500.

Any Uniformed Services University (USU) faculty member, staff, or student may submit nominations for the Awards.

The nominee must be either a member of the full time faculty or an AFRRI scientist at the University. The nomination letter should include:

- **A brief statement outlining the significance of the published research. This research should have been published (a) within the last three years, (b) while the nominee has been at the University and (c) the nominee should be first or senior author on the paper. The nomination letter should be signed by the person submitting the nomination.**
- **A copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae and a copy of the selected paper (Published after December 2006) upon which the nomination is based.**

The closing date for nominations is **Friday January 29, 2010**. The recipients of the Awards will be announced no later than February 28th, 2010.

Previous holders of the award are not eligible following the first three full years of their last award.

Applications should be submitted to the Office of Research attention Dr. Susan Rasmussen (srasmussen@usuhs.mil).

I. Introduction:

The Leonard and Wu Awards for Excellence in Research will recognize USUHS faculty members & AFRRRI scientists who, in the estimation of their peers, have made the most significant published scientific contribution to translational/clinical and basic biomedical research respectively, during the past three years. The recipients of these Awards will give his or her Award Lecture at the Symposia named in honor of Drs. Wu and Leonard during the University Research Week. Each recipient will receive a memento and a cash award of \$2,500.

II. Nomination and Selection Committee:

Any full time employee of USUHS may nominate one person for the Leonard award and/or the Wu award. All nominations **must** be made by **5 p.m.** on **Friday the 29th of January 2010.**

The selection committee for these awards shall be selected by the Faculty Senate and be composed of: 1) Two members of the faculty senate research policy committee. One shall have research history in the translational/clinical sciences and the other a history of research in the basic sciences; 2) A past winner of the Leonard award and a past winner of the Wu award; 3) Both an outstanding basic scientist and translational/clinical scientist not employed by USUHS with at least a national reputation; 4) Two outstanding researchers one from the basic sciences and another from the translational/clinical sciences shall be chosen by the faculty senate President; 5) The chair of the faculty senate research policy committee shall be the chairman of the committee but will have no vote except in the case of a tie.

III. Voting by the committee:

1) Each member of the committee shall have the opportunity to review the award nominations prior to the meeting of the committee. 2) The committee shall meet in person to debate the merits of each nomination – email voting or voting by conference call shall not be acceptable. 3) The committee shall rank order the nominees initially with each committee member allotting a score of one of the following for each nominee: outstanding-1 point, excellent-2 points, very good-3 points, good-4 points, fair-5 points 4) The top 3 (the three lowest average score totals) will then be voted on with the winner of the Leonard and Wu Awards receiving the plurality of the vote 5) Conflict of interest will exist if a member of the committee has co-authored a paper, served as a mentor or mentee, or shares a grant within the past 7 years with any of the nominees. A conflict of interest shall also exist if the committee member is biologically related to or related by marriage to any of the nominees. 6) In the event of a conflict of interest, the committee member may not advocate for the nominee for which they have a conflict of interest. They may however participate in the discussion but may not vote. 7) At the time of voting the member who has a conflict of interest must leave the room.

IV. Award Criteria:

The Leonard award may be awarded no more than one time per year for excellence in translational or clinical research to a USUHS faculty member or AFFRI scientist who has made a substantial contribution to biomedical science as measured by a significant peer reviewed publicized paper. The following criteria must be met: (a) be published within the last three years and (b) while the nominee has been at the University, (c) the nominee should be first or the senior author on the paper, (d) all related work should have been carried out while the faculty member was here at USUHS, and (e) the nominee shall be a full time faculty member of USUHS or AFFRI scientist.

The translational or clinical research should have or be expected to either 1) significantly reduce the mortality or morbidity of a disease or condition, or 2) improve the quality of life or patient outcomes. This research should have the ability to be readily implemented or be practical in its approach in order for it to be likely utilized by clinicians.

The Wu award may be awarded no more than one time per year for excellence in basic science to a USUHS faculty member or AFFRI scientist who has made a substantial contribution to biomedical science as measured by a significant peer reviewed publicized paper. The following criteria must be met: (a) be published within the last three years and (b) while the nominee has been at the University, (c) the nominee should be first or the senior author on the paper, and (d) all related work should have been carried out while the faculty member or AFFRI scientist was here at USUHS.

The basic science should represent one of the following: 1) a large step in our molecular understanding of cellular or pathological process, 2) the development of a novel technology which will further advance science, or 3) the development of a potentially new approach in addressing a disease or disorder. The science should have or be expected to make a large impact in the particular field of study.