Basic Information

The Distinguished Innovation and Impact Award (DIIA) recognizes outstanding innovators whose accomplishments as faculty members demonstrate impact beyond academia, improving the lives of ordinary citizens, including but not restricted to sectors as diverse as health care, energy, environment, business, law, communications, technology, or the arts. The award will be given each year to one outstanding faculty member who has distinguished themselves and the University through entrepreneurial activities that have resulted in innovations that have had measurable societal impact. The recipient receives public recognition plus a $10,000 cash award to be used at his or her discretion. Faculty on career, clinical, or tenure tracks are eligible. Nominations are due online at http://academic-affairs.utah.edu/awards-nominations/distinguished-innovation-impact-award/ by January 26, 2018.

Applicant Instructions

This award highlights the impact resulting from innovation. The DIIA recognizes University of Utah faculty members in all disciplines. Selection is made on the basis of the significance of the innovation and breadth of the impact. Recognition of the significance of the innovation and evaluation of its overall impact will be determined by a committee consisting of past recipients of the DIIA award.

Necessary Materials to Support Nomination

Please complete the nomination form found online at http://academic-affairs.utah.edu/awards-nominations/distinguished-innovation-impact-award/. The nomination form consists of three sections: letter of nomination, suggested referees, and curriculum vitae. Please note that nominees are eligible for three years and nominations will be automatically carried forward. Updated information will be solicited from the nominator when renewing a nomination from a previous year. The details of each section are as outlined below.

1. **Letter of Nomination:** A letter of nomination should be from a faculty member, department, or college. It should summarize the nominee’s relevant accomplishments, with particular attention to such questions as the impact of the nominee’s contributions on his/her chosen field, clear evidence of innovation, and identification of the short-term and long-range impact that this innovation has had, or will have, on the lives of people. The Nominator should work jointly with the Nominee to develop this short description, which should be readily understood by informed scholars outside of the nominee’s field.

2. **Suggested Referees:** The Nominator should work with the Nominee to identify up to five recognized experts in the field who are familiar with the nominee’s work. The opinions of nationally and internationally recognized experts are most persuasive. The Nominator will provide a list of names, complete contact information, and a short biographical sketch (or url) (<250 words) for each expert. **Supporting letters will be solicited by the DIIA committee.**

3. **Curriculum Vitae:** The curriculum vitae should be sent in conjunction with the nomination form, and submitted online at http://academic-affairs.utah.edu/awards-nominations/distinguished-innovation-impact-award/.