

2009-10 Graduate Student Awards

Nominations, notifications, and all supporting documents are due in the Graduate School-GSSO (0325), grads@vt.edu, by February 5, 2010 unless otherwise noted.

Download forms at www.grads.vt.edu/academics/honors_awards/graduate_awards/index.html

Winners will be recognized during Graduate Education Week, March 22-26, 2010.

Awards and Selection/Eligibility Criteria	Nomination/Notification Requirements
<p>Outstanding Dissertation Awards (<i>one in mathematics, sciences or engineering; ; one in humanities, business or social sciences</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originality of idea • Clarity and effectiveness of presentation of ideas • Quality of writing • Contributions to the field and potential for future scholarly productivity • Dissertations must have been submitted in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2009 • Only one nomination per department or program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed nomination form • Three to five-page executive summary of the dissertation written by the student • Nomination letter from major professor addressing all of the selection criteria • Support letter from the department head highlighting the significance of the dissertation's contributions to the discipline • Support letter from member of dissertation committee addressing all selection criteria
<p>Graduate Student Service Excellence Award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be given for "promoting the public good", not for financial gain • Should demonstrate innovation, creativity or a new kind of engagement • Nominee must be enrolled at the time of the nomination • Service effort must have occurred in 2009 • No paid services may be considered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed nomination form • Two letters of recommendation that address significance of impact of service(s) performed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ One from a supervisor of the services performed ◦ One from anyone in the community who has had an opportunity to observe the performance of the service • One letter from the nominee describing the service, including the time and/or level of commitment required to complete nomination project(s)
<p>Graduate Student Teaching Excellence Award</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching must have been done at Virginia Tech by full-time or part-time GTA for at least a full semester or summer term within the last year in 2009(P14 or wage appointments are not eligible) • Nominee must be enrolled at the time of the nomination • Good teaching as evidenced by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Thorough knowledge of the subject matter ◦ Effective communication skills ◦ Enthusiasm for the subject ◦ Ability to motivate students to learn ◦ Effective organizational skills ◦ Learner centered pedagogy • Demonstrated evidence of participation in teaching effectiveness seminars, classes or FDI program • Only one nomination per department or program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed nomination form • At least two recommendations addressing criteria of good teaching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ One from a supervising faculty member ◦ One from a faculty or staff member, or graduate student who has observed the nominee's teaching skills • Student evaluations (summaries) • Statement of personal teaching philosophy from the nominee • Evidence that the nominee has had sufficient teaching duties to demonstrate meeting criteria for good teaching • Up to 4-page curriculum vitae from the nominee highlighting information relevant to teaching excellence • The entire nomination packet may not exceed 30 pages

Awards and Selection/Eligibility Criteria	Nomination/Notification Requirements
<p>Graduate Man and Woman of the Year Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement in professional organizations, campus activities and the graduate community • Contributions to new knowledge through teaching, research and scholarship • Contributions to the graduate community at VT (including all campuses and extension programs) • Commitment to diversity • Students can apply or be nominated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed application form • Brief resume (no more than 3 pages) addressing experiences described in the selection criteria • Essay describing the applicant's understanding of diversity and the applicant's efforts and activities to promote diversity on campus or in the community (no more than 2 pages, double spaced) • Two references, one academic and one non-academic (see reference form for details)
<p>Outstanding Graduate Student Award <i>Two per college (one master's and one doctoral)</i> <i>One in interdisciplinary programs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection criteria is defined by the college, or by the Graduate School for interdisciplinary programs • Selection process is managed by the colleges and the Graduate School respectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each college develops its own criteria and selects a master's and a doctoral student as winners, considering their contributions to teaching, research, and other scholarly pursuits. Students who best exemplify the qualities and characteristics deemed important to the college should be chosen. • Use the notification form (available on the Graduate School homepage) to submit the name of the winners to the Graduate School. Include the selection criteria as it were defined by the college and list the students' relevant accomplishments • Notifications must be submitted to the Graduate School by February 19, 2010