

The 2012 Rains Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship or Creative Work

1. About the Award

The Rains Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship or Creative Work is named after Mrs. Liliore G. Rains, who was a major benefactor to Loyola Marymount University. The Rains Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship or Creative Work consists of a university medal and a monetary award of \$5,000. Each academic year, one such Award will be given.

2. Eligibility

All full-time, tenured faculty members of LMU are eligible for this award. Previous winners are no longer eligible.

3. Purpose of the Award

The purpose of the award is to recognize a tenured member of the Loyola Marymount University faculty whose research, scholarship or creative activity exemplifies LMU's mission in a manner that is both outstanding and meaningful.

4. Nominations

With the nominee's consent, nominations in the form of a letter may come from any tenured or tenure-track member of the faculty. The nominations must be accompanied by supporting documentation (see #6 below) prepared by the nominator and the nominee and submitted to the Selection Committee through the chair and the dean of the college of the nominee. The Selection Committee consists of tenured LMU faculty.

5. Criteria for Selection

Research and teaching are both essential duties of the LMU faculty members. Indeed, excellence in research, scholarship or creative activity along with excellence in teaching should go hand in hand. The award recognizes faculty members who successfully have united these two roles through their research, scholarly or creative achievements.

The Criteria for selection include the extent to which:

- The work contributes to the common good of the campus, the community and society at large and fulfills the university's mission and goals;
- The work has contributed to or influenced the faculty member's academic or creative field of work;
- The faculty member integrates their research, scholarly or creative work into their teaching, advising, and mentoring;
- The work has garnered external recognition such as honors, awards, or funding.

6. Supporting Evidence

Although the format of supporting evidence may vary, it should be organized in a three-ring binder. Include a table of contents keyed to tabbed sections for easy reference. Do not use plastic sleeves.

The nominee should include:

- A copy of the letter of nomination;
- The nominee's curriculum vitae;
- Letters of recommendation from the Department Chair and the Dean;
- Letters-of-support (no more than three) from colleagues or other persons in a position to comment on the nominee's research, scholarly, or creative work;
- A statement by the nominee that describes his or her research, scholarly or creative accomplishments, frames them relative to their contribution to the discipline, the university community or society at large, and indicates how they meet the criteria for selection.

7. Review Procedures

Nominations are to be submitted in the form of a letter to the Selection Committee, Rains Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship or Creative Work, in care of Dr. John Carfora, Associate Vice President for Research Advancement and Compliance (4820 University Hall), no later than **Friday, January 13, 2012**.

Supporting documentation, compiled by the nominator and nominee in a three-ring binder, must be submitted to the nominee's department chair no later than **Friday, January 27, 2012**. The chair reviews the application, encloses a letter of recommendation and then forwards the binder to the dean who also reviews it and encloses a letter of recommendation.

The dean will then forward the binder with enclosed letters to the Selection Committee, in care of Dr. John Carfora, Associate Vice President for Research Advancement and Compliance (4820 University Hall), by **Tuesday, February 7, 2012**. The candidates' applications are reviewed by the Rains Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship or Creative Work Selection Committee, which is comprised of tenured LMU faculty.

8. Award Announcement

The Rains Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship or Creative Work will be announced at the Academic Awards Convocation. Since public recognition is an integral part of the Award, the recipient will attend the Academic Awards Convocation and be given a medal commemorating the Award. To honor the award recipient, the university will host a celebratory social function at which the awardee will give a brief personal reflection on his or her contributions through research, scholarship or creative work to the university mission and to the academic discipline or creative art.

If you have any questions please contact Rosa Calderon, in the Office of Academic Affairs, via email at rosa.calderon@lmu.edu.