

# FACULTY FELLOWS

## Texas A&M AgriLife Research

The Texas A&M University System

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### Purpose

Texas A&M AgriLife Research conducts basic and applied research for the benefit of the agricultural industry and its consumers. In recognition of the significant scholarly contributions and research leadership of its faculty, AgriLife Research established the Faculty Fellows Program in 1998 to acknowledge and reward exceptional research faculty within the agency. The Faculty Fellows Program recognizes outstanding and productive faculty who have contributed to the scholarly creation and dissemination of new knowledge through exceptional research leadership and grantsmanship within their respective discipline.

The philosophy of selection recognizes continuous and distinguished performance of established research faculty. Upon initial selection as a Faculty Fellow, a faculty member will receive a cash award of \$4,000. Recognition as a Faculty Fellow in a subsequent year includes designation as a Senior Faculty Fellow with a \$5,000 award. Faculty Fellow and Senior Faculty Fellow designations are permanent and should be utilized in the individual's title (e.g., Professor and Senior Faculty Fellow). Faculty Fellows are recognized during the annual Texas A&M AgriLife Conference.

### Nomination Process

During the mid-fall of each year, the Director of AgriLife Research solicits nominations for the Faculty Fellows Program. Nominations for Faculty Fellows should be submitted by a department head or resident director having immediate administrative responsibility for the nominee; input from an awards committee is encouraged.

A department or research center may submit more than one nomination in a given year. Nominations consist of a designated nomination summary and an abbreviated five-year (5-year) faculty achievement report/curriculum vitae. The nomination summary is limited to four (4) single-spaced pages (12 point font) (not including the faculty achievement report/curriculum vitae). Letters of support should not be included in the nomination package.

### Eligibility and Criteria for Selection

#### **Faculty Fellows**

Associate Professors and Professors who hold a budgetary appointment with AgriLife Research are eligible for nomination as a Faculty Fellow. Faculty members who hold positions in Endowed Chairs, Endowed Professorships or Fellowships are ineligible; however, department heads and resident directors are encouraged to solicit input from these faculty members in submitting nominations to the Fellows Program.

An anonymous 6-member faculty panel consisting of three (3) on-campus and three (3) off-campus senior faculty will review nominations to the Faculty Fellows Program and present their recommendations to the Director of AgriLife Research. The justification for a nomination should be based on the nominee's previous five (5) years of continuous, scholarly contributions and research leadership. The following criteria will be utilized in the review process:

- Significant scholarly accomplishments and research contributions resulting in meaningful research outcomes that benefit science and/or the public.
- Exceptional productivity in publications, monographs and/or textbooks.
- Outstanding success in research contracts.
- Distinguished contributions to science through leadership in professional societies or committee assignments.
- Distinctive support of other research faculty and/or staff in research contracts and activities.
- Extraordinary support and involvement in graduate student training.
- Exceptional productivity in patents, inventions, copyrights, licenses or plant variety releases.

#### **Senior Faculty Fellow**

After a faculty member has been honored as a Faculty Fellow, a department/research center may nominate the individual as a Senior Faculty Fellow. An individual is eligible for nomination as a Senior Faculty Fellow five (5) years after the initial recognition as a Fellow. (For example, a 2005 Faculty Fellow would be eligible for nomination as a Senior Faculty Fellow in 2011.) The justification for a Senior Faculty Fellow nomination should reflect continued scholarly contributions through leadership in a research program as noted in the criteria for a Faculty Fellow.