**Dalhousie University President’s Research Excellence Award – Research Impact**

**Terms of Reference**

Dalhousie University prides itself on being one of the top 15 most research-intensive institutions in Canada. The President’s Research Excellence Awards for Research Impact have been created to recognize researchers who have, in recent years, made a major and impactful contribution to their field of research. The Research Impact Awards carry with them a cash award of $2000 to be used in support of research. Awardees are only eligible to receive one Research Impact Award in course of their career.

Up to three awards will be presented annually. Recipients can come from any field. Please note that these awards are not intended to be career research awards and will not be made in recognition of an outstanding career-long body of work.

Nominees are expected to:

* Hold a fulltime (50% FTE or higher), Dalhousie academic appointment
* Oversee and be actively involved in an independent program of research
* Have made a recent (within the past three to five years), major contribution to their field that has had demonstrable impact

A call for nominations will be held annually in February with nominations due in early April and decisions announced in May. Awards will be presented as a part of the Legacy Awards ceremony.

Nominations may be made by any member of the Dalhousie community but must be acknowledged by the appropriate Dean (see pg.2). Nomination packages must include:

* A letter of nomination (no longer than two pages) describing the nominee’s recent research contribution and providing evidence of its impact. The letter should also describe the fit of the nominee’s research with Impact Together: Dalhousie’s Research and Innovation Strategic Direction, 2018-2023;
* A current version of the nominee’s CV;
* A 1-page “Impact Statement” from the nominee written in lay language;
* One letter of support from an external referee. This letter should identify the major research contribution in question and discuss the nature and importance/impact of that contribution to the broader research community and to society as a whole;
* A signed statement of acknowledgement from the Dean (see pg.2).

Nominations will be evaluated by the Institutional Research Awards and Prizes Committee and recommendations submitted to the Vice President, Research and Innovation for final decisions. Dalhousie is committed to fostering a collegial culture grounded in equity, diversity and inclusiveness. Appropriate consideration will be given to these ideals.

**Dean’s Acknowledgement**

As Dean of the Faculty of (insert Faculty name here), I hereby acknowledge that (insert name of nominee here) is being nominated for the President’s Research Excellence Award for (insert name of award here).

Signature