



## Dean's Research Awards – HDR

Faculty guidelines for the Best Doctoral Thesis Prize, Best HDR Supervision Award, Best HDR Publication Award, and the Exceptional HDR Social Engagement with Global Impact Award

Authorised by:	Associate Dean Research Training
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Related documents:	UNSW Guidelines on Facilities and Resources to Support Higher Degree Research Students <a href="http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/facilitieshdrstudents.html">http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/facilitieshdrstudents.html</a> Support for Postgraduate Students <a href="https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/research-students/support/">https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/research-students/support/</a>

### INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

The Best Doctoral Thesis Prize aims to encourage and reward the Graduate Researcher's exceptional achievement in producing a PhD thesis. The prize is worth \$1,000. It has been awarded each year since 2003 to the most outstanding PhD thesis in the Faculty based on examiners' reports.

The Best HDR Supervision Award recognizes sustained excellence and leadership in postgraduate supervision. The Award was previously awarded under the Dean's Learning and Teaching Awards, up until 2014. Since 2016 onwards, this award has been a part of the Dean's Research Awards.

The Best HDR Publication Award was established in 2017 to recognize the achievements of our HDR students. The prize is worth \$1,000 and we encourage currently enrolled HDR students as well as completed students still enrolled in 2018 (or when the publication was submitted) to submit publications from 2019 where the HDR student is primary or sole author. Only 1 publication per candidate is allowed to be nominated.

The Exceptional HDR Social Engagement with Global Impact Award was established in 2019 for an outstanding contribution to or leadership of a (research) program or activity related to their research degree program and aimed at creating a just society, overcoming Grand Challenges or improving the lives of marginalized and disadvantaged communities. The prize is worth \$1,000. We would encourage currently enrolled candidates to provide a brief outline of their research and how it has demonstrated significant global impact.

### NOMINATION

#### Best Doctoral Thesis Prize

Only PGCs from Schools and Research Centres may nominate candidates and a maximum of two each. In cases where the PGC is the supervisor, the Head of School should authorize the nomination. If the School/Centre has more than two theses to nominate, a sub-committee within the School/Centre should be formed to assess which two should be put forward.

The nomination is to be accompanied by a nomination form along with copies of two examiners' reports and the thesis abstract with a link to the copy of the thesis in UNSW Library. In cases where the nominated thesis is on restricted access, a PDF version of the thesis that was submitted to UNSW Library must be provided. To obtain the submitted thesis from UNSW Library, please contact [adt@unsw.edu.au](mailto:adt@unsw.edu.au).

Eligible theses must have received only "Outstanding (O)" or "Excellent (E)" on the summary sheets of the examination reports. Nominations must only be for candidates who have received their final Examiners Reports within the 2019 calendar year.

### **Best HDR Supervision Award**

All academic staff, either full time or part time, who have supervised at least three research higher degree candidates to completion as a primary or joint supervisor are eligible to apply for the award. Students are also able to nominate their supervisors for this award, however they will need their supervisor to fill in some sections of the nomination form.

Applicants should submit the nomination form, along with the following material:

#### (a) Supervision Statement

(max. 1.5 pages) Applicants may present a case for outstanding supervision based on a number of factors including the following where applicable:

- Outstanding track record in higher degree research supervision which may include the number of candidates supervised and student completion rates; nature of the research program and academic profile that attracts high calibre local and international students; supervision practices that lead to publications, prizes and awards, presentations at prestigious conferences, and theses judged to be of outstanding quality; supervision practices that lead to timely and successful completions; induction of students into the national and international research communities; career mentoring.
- Outstanding supervision of a small number of research students, including leadership in supervision reflected in appointments to key roles in the School/Faculty/University with reference to the specific achievements and impact of the applicant in these roles which may include significant contributions to relevant policy development and best practice in the School/Faculty/University or wider community and mentoring of new staff.

Applicants should structure their submissions to best highlight their contributions and case for outstanding HDR supervision. The statement should include reference to the outcomes and information provided in the Supervision Record Table to justify claims. Further advice on structuring the application is available to assist applicants in the [Supervision Award Toolkit](#) on the Graduate Research School website.

Two References from students who were supervised by the nominee will be obtained confidentially by the sub-committee.

### **Best HDR Publication Award**

Current HDR students and who have been enrolled as HDRs when submitting the article are eligible to nominate their peer-reviewed publication, where they were primary or sole author. The publication must be verified in ROS and must have 2019 as its publishing date. Please see GRS policy on authorship below. <https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/researchauthorproc.pdf>

Only 1 publication per candidate may be nominated.

The nomination is to be accompanied by a nomination form along with electronic copies of the publication and reviewers' comments. In case of NTRO, the ROS research statement must be submitted. An Academic Statement or a Letter of Completion (if available) must also be submitted together with the nomination form. The nomination should be endorsed by the supervisors of the candidate who authored the nominated publication.

### **The Exceptional HDR Social Engagement and Global Impact Award**

Current HDR candidates are eligible to nominate their HDR research by briefly outlining how it has demonstrated social engagement or achieved significant global impact.

### **NOMINATION PROCESS**

Applications should use the appropriate application form provided and adhere to page limits stated therein.

Applications must be submitted electronically by email to Faculty Research Office via [fass.fro@unsw.edu.au](mailto:fass.fro@unsw.edu.au) and **by close of business, Monday, 30 March 2020**.

All enquiries should be directed to Betty Pun, Research Support Officer, via email to [fass.fro@unsw.edu.au](mailto:fass.fro@unsw.edu.au).

### **ASSESSMENT**

A sub-committee of the Higher Degree Committee, usually consisting of the Associate Dean – Research Training, the Associate Dean Research, and a Postgraduate Coordinator with no nominees from his/her school/centre, will select the awardees. In the event of all schools/centres being represented among the applicants the subcommittee will consist of the ADRT and ADR and an additional co-opted member from the Faculty.

### **AWARD PRESENTATION**

Winners of the Dean's Research Awards will be announced at the award ceremony on 11 June 2020.

**Note:** Nominating and nominated HDR candidates are expected to attend the Dean's Research Awards event on 11 June (5-7pm).