

Moody Outstanding Mentor Awards 2024-2025

The Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and the Center for Teaching Excellence are delighted to accept nominations for Moody Outstanding Mentor Awards. These awards recognize exceptional mentoring of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars by SMU faculty. Four awards are given each year. Each department may nominate one faculty member for this award each year. All full-time SMU faculty who work closely with graduate students and/or postdoctoral scholars are eligible for nomination. An individual faculty member may only receive this award once every five years.

Moody Outstanding Mentor Awards provide a fund of **\$10,000**, to be used by the end of the following academic year, to support research and professional development expenses for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars under the awardee's mentorship. In addition, awardees will each receive **\$1,000** for their personal use from SMU's Fikes Fund.

Nominations should be submitted via the online form [here](#) no later than **Friday, Oct. 11**, and should include the following materials:

- Letter of nomination from the department chair or their designee (PDF or Word document)
- Statement of mentoring philosophy and experience from the nominee (PDF or Word document, maximum 1,000 words)
- Letter of support from a current or former mentee (PDF or Word document)
- Up-to-date CV for the nominee (PDF or Word document)
- Statement of how the \$10,000 award funds will be used (PDF or Word document, maximum 500 words)

The following factors will be taken into consideration in reviewing nominations (please see attached scoring rubric for more details):

- The nominee's amount and range of experience as a mentor
- The academic, research, teaching and career success of the nominee's mentees
- The nominee's impact on mentees as demonstrated by the letter of support
- The clarity and originality of the nominee's mentoring philosophy
- The benefit of the proposed use of award funds for graduate students and/or postdocs

Faculty members selected for awards will bear the title of Moody Outstanding Mentor for one full year. During that year, they may be called upon to participate in occasional panels and events to share best practices in mentoring with other SMU faculty. Questions may be directed to Dr. Alan Itkin at aitkin@smu.edu.