

## Faculty and Staff Excellence Award Descriptions - 2021

Each award, including its individual eligibility and nomination requirements, is described in detail on the following pages.

- Branford Price Millar Award (page 2)
- George C. Hoffmann Award (page 3)
- Butler Award for Library Faculty Service (page 4)
- Mary H. Cumpston Award for Service to Students (page 5)
- Foundation Philanthropic Partnership Award (page 6)
- Adjunct Faculty Award for Instruction (page 7)
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**Portland State University  
Faculty Excellence and Achievement Awards**

**BRANFORD PRICE MILLAR AWARD**

The Millar Award is given annually to a tenure-related faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, instruction, university service, and public service, and whose performance in the area of scholarship and research is judged to be exceptional. Although tenure is not required for nomination nor selection, historically this award has been bestowed upon tenured faculty with many years of dedication to the university. The recipient will receive a citation and a \$1,500 taxable honorarium. Only one award may be given each year.

Branford P. Millar, the second president of Portland State College, did his doctoral work in English literature at Harvard and came to Portland State from Michigan State University. It was during his presidency that the basis was laid for the change to Portland State University by the addition of masters' degrees and the first doctoral programs. He was the first to recognize "the values of developing the connections between the College and the community," as Dr. Gordon Dodds pointed out in his history of the University. After leaving the presidency, Dr. Millar returned to his scholarly interests and joined the English department, teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in English literature.

The award recipient will be chosen by a selection committee composed of several recent recipients of the Millar and Hoffmann awards. The committee, aware of all past award recipients, reviews and selects promising new candidates solely upon the documentation provided by the primary nominator. Incomplete nominations and/or nominations that disregard the nomination page limit of 25 pages total will disqualify deserving individuals.

For questions about this award, contact Vanelda Hopes ([vanelda.hopes@pdx.edu](mailto:vanelda.hopes@pdx.edu), 503-725-5257) or Colette Yaspo ([colette.yaspo@pdx.edu](mailto:colette.yaspo@pdx.edu), 503-725-5257).

**Required Components for Millar Nominations**

Tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenured track faculty may nominate candidates. Complete nomination packets will include an official cover page as well as:

**1. Nominator's Letter of Support**

The primary nominator's letter of support articulates the candidates demonstrated excellence (including appropriate publications, grants, awards or other evidence of inventive pedagogical endeavors and/or noteworthy public service pursuits), specific research contributions, and a description of the significance (and/or the potential future significance) of these contributions.

**2. Abbreviated Current Professional Curriculum Vitae**

A candidate's abbreviated current professional curriculum vitae is required for application. Please remember that the entire nomination packet may not exceed 25 pages including the candidate's abbreviated current professional curriculum vitae.

**3. Additional Letters of Support**

Three additional support letters are required. Faculty, students and administrators are eligible to author these letters of support to further bolster a candidate's application. Extra support letters (beyond the primary nominator's and the other required three) are permitted as long as the entire nomination packet (including the candidate's abbreviated current professional curriculum vitae) does not exceed 25 pages.

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**Portland State University  
Faculty Excellence and Achievement Awards**

**GEORGE C. HOFFMANN AWARD**

The Hoffmann Award is given annually to a tenure-related faculty member in recognition of distinguished contributions to the University in the areas of instruction, university service, and scholarship (in that order) which are done in the spirit of humanism, civility, and collegiality with particular dedication to students and loyalty to the University—values especially cherished by George Hoffmann. The recipient will receive a citation and a \$1,500 taxable honorarium. Only one award may be given each year.

George C. Hoffmann came to Portland State College in 1948 and for many of the 41 years, until his retirement in 1989, served as the Dean of the College of Social Sciences. He was a strong advocate for the liberal arts; and, during times of restructuring due to financial problems, helped to maintain strong traditional programs. Dean Hoffmann was trained as a U.S. historian but had a long-standing interest in the Spanish/U.S. border lands and the history of peninsular Spain. During his career as an administrator, he taught every year, and had a deep interest in assuring that students received the academic advising and other support services needed to help them graduate.

The award recipient will be chosen by a selection committee composed of several recent recipients of the Millar and Hoffmann awards. The committee, aware of all past award recipients, reviews and selects promising new candidates solely upon the documentation provided by the primary nominator. Incomplete nominations and/or nominations that disregard the nomination page limit of 25 pages total will disqualify deserving individuals.

For questions about this award, contact Vanelda Hopes ([vanelda.hopes@pdx.edu](mailto:vanelda.hopes@pdx.edu), 503-725-5257) or Colette Yaspo ([colette.yaspo@pdx.edu](mailto:colette.yaspo@pdx.edu), 503-725-5257).

**Required Components for Hoffmann Nominations**

Faculty, staff or students may nominate worthy candidates. Students serving as a candidate's primary nominator must have a faculty co-nominator. Complete nomination packets will include an official cover page as well as:

**1. Nominator's Letter of Support**

The primary nominator's letter of support articulates the candidate's credentials including evidence of distinguished achievement in instruction, university service, and scholarship (in that order). Likewise, a nominator's letter should include evidence of creative or research endeavors, or exceptional contributions to the university.

**2. Abbreviated Current Professional Curriculum Vitae**

A candidate's abbreviated current professional curriculum vitae is required for application. Please remember that the entire nomination packet may not exceed 25 pages including the candidate's abbreviated current professional curriculum vitae.

**3. Additional Letters of Support**

Three additional support letters are required. Faculty, students and administrators are eligible to author these letters of support to further bolster a candidate's application. Extra support letters (beyond the primary nominator's and the other required three) are permitted as long as the entire nomination packet (including the candidate's abbreviated current professional curriculum vitae) does not exceed 25 pages. A candidate's exemplary instruction, university service, and/or scholarship should be confirmed in organized, substantial, and detailed support letters.

**4. Optional – Student Course Evaluations**

Student course evaluations are optional. Please remember that the entire nomination packet may not exceed 25 pages including optional student course evaluations.

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**Portland State University  
Library Faculty Service Award**

**BUTLER AWARD FOR LIBRARY FACULTY SERVICE**

Professor Emeritus Kenneth W. Butler and his wife, Elsie W. Butler, established a fund to recognize outstanding performance by a member of the Branford P. Millar Library faculty each year. The award recognizes excellence of library service to students, faculty, and other library patrons. All **tenure-track or tenured library faculty** are eligible to receive the award, except for individuals in purely administrative positions. (Note: Butler Award nominators may be from outside the library.) The guidelines for the award specify that classroom teaching, publications, and service to the University may also be taken into account. The recipient will receive a citation and a \$1,500 taxable honorarium.

Professor Butler retired from the faculty of Portland State University in 1987, after 33 years of dedicated service. During that time, he helped guide the growth and development of the library in a variety of roles, including two periods during which he was Acting Director. University Librarian Emeritus Tom Pfungsten, said: "Ken Butler epitomizes the highest level of professionalism and excellence in librarianship. It is most fitting that an award bearing his name will recognize these qualities in current and future members of the PSU Library faculty." Elsie Butler, for whom the award is also named, is a retired librarian formerly with the Multnomah County Library.

The award recipient will be chosen by a selection committee composed of a PSU teaching faculty member, an enrolled PSU student, a PSU library emeritus faculty member, and a PSU alumnus not employed by the University.

For questions about this award, contact Stephanie Doig, [smdoig@pdx.edu](mailto:smdoig@pdx.edu), 503-725-4126.

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**Portland State University  
Unclassified Staff Service Award**

**MARY H. CUMPSTON AWARD FOR SERVICE TO STUDENTS**

The Mary H. Cumpston Award for Service to Students is given annually to an **academic professional or university administrator, without academic rank**, who has demonstrated excellence in the area of service to students. The recipient will receive a citation and a \$1,500 taxable honorarium.

Mary H. Cumpston was a beloved colleague whose enduring contributions to Portland State University and to the community have enhanced the development and delivery of student services. Mary graduated from Portland State in 1957 and returned to the University after seven years of teaching in Portland Public Schools. She served as director of the PSU Career Center for most of her career until retirement in 1999. During her tenure, she was a tireless student advocate. Her work touched the lives of countless men and women, fostering friendships and creating opportunities for student success in college and beyond. She was known for her ability to bridge the academic and administrative spheres of influence, and was elected presiding officer of Faculty Senate in 1981-82. Her work centered on methods to improve educational access, persistence, and post-graduate professional preparedness. She was known to see the best in everyone and sought ways to help all those with whom she came in contact to achieve full personal and professional potential. Her gift was the ability to identify individual and University needs and to match these needs with creative and effective solutions. Mary embodied the meaning of excellence in service to students and to Portland State University.

The award recipient will be chosen by a selection committee each winter. The recipient will demonstrate excellence in the area of service to students which may include:

1. Accomplishments such as initiatives or exemplary methods that result in sustained or outstanding contributions to student success;
2. Enhancements to the spirit of the University community, such as work that bridges academic, administrative, and student services areas;
3. Generosity in mentoring and support for students and colleagues.

For questions about this award, contact Alex Miller at [atm7@pdx.edu](mailto:atm7@pdx.edu) or 503-725-4405.

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**Portland State University Foundation**  
**FACULTY PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERSHIP AWARD**

This Portland State University Foundation award is given annually to a faculty or staff member in recognition of their role as a partner in cultivating philanthropic support for a priority program within their unit. The recipient will receive a citation and a \$1,500 taxable honorarium.

Nominations should clearly describe how the individual meets the selection criteria. Awards will be made on the basis of the following:

- The nominee's involvement in providing information to build a case statement related to a priority need for their unit leading to a successful solicitation.
- The nominee's direct involvement in strategizing for or soliciting a significant philanthropic gift relating to a priority program in their unit,
- The nominee's partnership and/or collaboration with the PSU Foundation staff and/or Board of Trustees that resulted in a relationship with a prospect or donor,
- The nominee's direct involvement in conceiving a project, writing a proposal, and collaborating with a donor that leads to a successful solicitation for an identified unit priority,
- The nominee's willingness to engage with alumni, community members, or prospective donors.

The Portland State University Foundation is a private non-profit whose mission is to support PSU. We do this by securing philanthropic support, managing the endowment, and building a culture of philanthropy. This support benefits students, faculty, programs and centers, research and facilities.

The award recipient will be chosen by a selection committee composed of:

- Two members of the PSU Foundation leadership team
- One member of the PSU Foundation board of trustees
- One member of the PSU Alumni Association board of directors
- The Presiding Officer of the PSU Faculty Senate
- The Presiding Officer-Elect of the PSU Faculty Senate

Nominations should clearly describe how the individual's partnership has aided in the cultivation of donors and supporters. Complete nomination packets will include:

1. Nominator's Letter of Support
2. Abbreviated Current Professional Curriculum Vitae

Letters of external support, when appropriate, will be viewed favorably

For questions about this award, contact Meg Evans, [evansm@psuf.org](mailto:evansm@psuf.org), 503-725-5066

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**Portland State University  
Faculty Excellence and Achievement Awards**

**ADJUNCT FACULTY AWARD FOR INSTRUCTION**

The Adjunct Faculty Award for Instruction was created to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions of Portland State University adjunct instructors in the area of instruction. The recipient will receive a citation and a \$1,000 taxable honorarium. Faculty, staff and students are invited to submit nominations for this new Adjunct Faculty Award, established in 2017.

**Who Can Be Nominated?**

- The nominee must be employed as a part-time faculty (0.49 FTE or less) member at Portland State University, and be a member of the PSUFA-AFT collective bargaining unit during the academic year of the nomination.
- The nominee must not have received the Adjunct Faculty Award in the last five years (effective 2017-18).

**Who Can Submit a Nomination?**

Nominations may be submitted by a dean, associate dean, chair, chair equivalent, program director, other administrator, faculty colleague, or student with access to information regarding the nominee's teaching or research/scholarship excellence. Self-nominations will not be considered.

**Nomination Process:**

- Nominations must include a substantive letter of nomination addressing the nominee's contributions to the school or college in which they work and to the community, and the quality of their instruction or research/scholarship
- Nominations may include letters of support from students or community members
- Nominations may also include evidence of teaching or research/scholarship excellence

For questions about this award, contact Hannah Miller, [hannahmiller@pdx.edu](mailto:hannahmiller@pdx.edu) or 503-725-5352.

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**Portland State University  
Faculty Excellence and Achievement Awards**

**ADJUNCT FACULTY AWARD FOR RESEARCH**

The Adjunct Faculty Award for Research was created to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions of Portland State University adjunct instructors in the area of research. The recipient will receive a citation and a \$1,000 taxable honorarium. Faculty, staff and students are invited to submit nominations for this new Adjunct Faculty Award, established in 2017.

**Who Can Be Nominated?**

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