

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST

DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND CONSULTANCY



THIRD CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCHER AWARDS IN UCC

2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR



Background

The institution of the Best Researcher Awards (BRAs) in the University of Cape Coast (UCC) is considered as one of the programmes to reward its outstanding researchers. The BRAs are awarded to exceptional scientists and scholars for their outstanding achievements in the field of research. The Awards are dispensed annually to deserving staff of the University at the Research Awards and Grants (RAG) Ceremony organised by the Directorate of Research, Innovation and Consultancy (DRIC).

The Call for Applications for Research Grants and Awards for 2017-18 Academic Year puts on offer Five Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢500,000.00).

The research awards are:

- ❖ Best 'Evolving' Researcher
- ❖ Best 'Evolved' Researcher
- ❖ 'Outstanding' Researcher
- ❖ Best 'College-Level' Researcher

Criteria for Research Awards

Best Researcher Awards

The Best Researcher Awards (BRAs) shall be offered to University teaching staff who engage in research and have earned excellence for themselves and the University because of the importance and remarkable characteristics of their research work. Candidates for the award should have been confirmed as employees of the University and also, should be less than 60 years of age at the time of submitting application for the award. Evidence of research output of applicants for the award must clearly indicate the applicant's full time affiliation with the University. Researchers on leave, either within the University or outside, are not eligible.

Candidates for the BRAs shall be categorised into four groups, namely 'Evolving', 'Evolved', 'Outstanding' and 'College-Level' Researchers, which shall lead to four awards. Eligibility to participate in the 'Evolving', 'Evolved' and 'Outstanding' awards is based on number of years as an academic (both within and beyond the University). Applicants for the Best Evolving Researcher Award (BERA) should have *up to six (6) years* of experience as an academic. In the case of Best Evolved Researcher Award (BEEdRA), eligibility is restricted to staff with *more than six (6) years* of experience as an academic. Candidates must have *at least twelve (12) years* of experience as an academic to participate in the Outstanding Researcher Award (ORA). An applicant is allowed to apply for one out of the three Awards (BERA, BEEdRA and ORA).

The following outlines the specific criteria for eligibility into each of the four categories of the BRAs:

1.1. Best Evolving Researcher Award

The following criteria shall be followed to identify the BERA:

- 1.1.1. Aspirants for BERA should have been employed in the University for a maximum of six (6) years.
- 1.1.2. The candidate should submit evidence of, at least, twelve (12) publications. Candidates who have published in *refereed scientific journals indexed in Thomson Reuters master journal list (either Science citation index or Social Science & Humanities citation index) or Scopus or Web of Science* will be considered more favourably.
- 1.1.3. Eligible applicants should show evidence of contributing to the visibility of the University through received citations of published articles and research grants from donors and funders. Candidates with, at least, One Hundred (100) Google Scholar citations (non-self) shall be considered favourably. In addition, an applicant's presence on ResearchGate, Publons and Scopus will be considered more favourably.
- 1.1.4. Aspirants should demonstrate engagement with policy making and decision-makers. Among the evidence to be considered are; evidence of policy/news briefs, roundtable discussion with policymakers and interactions/engagements with the media (either electronic or print) on policy matters.
- 1.1.5. Beneficiary of BERA shall receive a plaque and financial award of Five Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢5,000.00).
- 1.1.6. The winner of the BERA shall make a presentation on his/her scholarly research portfolio/endeavours at the RAG Ceremony.

1.2. Best Evolved Researcher Award

The following criteria shall be employed to identify the BEdRA:

- 1.2.1. Aspirants for BEdRA should have been employed in the University for, at least, six (6) years and must be below 60 years.
- 1.2.2. The candidate should submit evidence of, at least, twenty (20) publications. Candidates who have published in *refereed scientific journals indexed in Thomson Reuters master journal list (either Science citation index or Social Science & Humanities citation index) or Scopus or Web of Science* will be considered more favourably.
- 1.2.3. All the publications should have a cite score of 1.0.
- 1.2.4. The research output should be a mix of both single authored and multiple authored papers.

- 1.2.5. Eligible applicants should show evidence of contributing to the image of the University through received citations of their published articles. Candidates with, at least, Two Hundred and Fifty (250) Google Scholar citations (non-self) shall be considered favourably. However, an applicant with ResearchGate and Scopus citations will be considered more favourably.
- 1.2.6. Aspirants should demonstrate engagement with policy. Among the evidence to be considered are; evidence of policy/news briefs, roundtable discussion with policymakers and interactions/engagements with the media (either electronic or print) on policy matters.
- 1.2.7. Contenders for BEdRA should show evidence of either singularly or in collaboration with other researchers written research proposals or received research grants or contracts in the last five academic years preceding the 2016-17 Academic Year.
- 1.2.8. Beneficiary of BEdRA shall receive a plaque and financial award of Eight Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢8,000.00).
- 1.2.9. The winner of the BEdRA must be willing to make a presentation on his/her scholarly research portfolio/endeavours at the RAG Ceremony.

1.3. Outstanding Researcher Award

- 1.3.1. Aspirants for ORA should have been employed in the University for at least twelve (12) years.
- 1.3.2. The candidate should submit evidence of a minimum of twenty-five (25) publications in the last ten years. Candidates who have published in *refereed scientific journals indexed in Thomson Reuters master journal list (either Science citation index or Social Science & Humanities citation index) or Scopus or Web of Science* will be considered more favourably.
- 1.3.3. All the publications should have a cite score of 2.0.
- 1.3.4. The research output should be a mix of both single authored and multiple authored papers.
- 1.3.5. Eligible applicants should show evidence of contributing to the image of the University through received citations of their published articles. Candidates with, at least, four Hundred (400) Google Scholar citations (non-self) shall be considered favourably. However, an applicant with ResearchGate and Scopus citations will be considered more favourably.
- 1.3.6. Applicants should have successfully supervised at least three (3) PhD candidates either as Principal Supervisor or Co-Supervisor in the last ten (10) years preceding the 2016-17 Academic Year.
- 1.3.7. Aspirants should demonstrate engagement with policy. Among the evidence to be considered are; evidence of policy/news briefs, roundtable discussion with

policymakers and interactions/engagements with the media (either electronic or print) on policy matters.

- 1.3.8. Contenders for ORA should show evidence of either singularly or in collaboration with other researchers written research proposals or received research grants or contracts with a money value of at least Three Hundred Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢300,000.00) in the last three academic years preceding the 2016-17 Academic Year.
- 1.3.9. The beneficiary of ORA shall receive a plaque and financial award of Ten Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢10,000.00).
- 1.3.10. The winner of the ORA must be willing to make a presentation on his/her scholarly research portfolio/endeavours at the RAG Ceremony.

1.4. *Best College-Level Researcher Award*

- 1.4.1. The award (BCLRA) shall be offered at the College level. Funds will be provided by DRIC to the Colleges for administrative facilitation of the processes at the College level.
- 1.4.2. The prize shall be awarded to a teaching staff in each of the five Colleges with the most cited publications in Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) indexed journals.
- 1.4.3. There shall be one award for each College [A financial award of Three Thousand Ghana Cedis (GH¢3,000.00) per College].
- 1.4.4. The winner must be a teaching staff of the University and affiliated to one of the five Colleges of the University and must be 60 years of age or below.
- 1.4.5. Aspirants for the award must have published, at least, six (6) papers in the last three years preceding the 2016-17 Academic Year.
- 1.4.6. Three of these publications must have attracted a minimum of fifteen (15) citations each on Google Scholar. However, an applicant's presence on ResearchGate and non self-citations as evidenced by articles on Scopus will be considered more favourably.
- 1.4.7. Staff with the following will have an advantage:
 - ❖ Publications in refereed journals indexed in Thomson Reuters master journal list (either Science citation index or Social Science & Humanities citation index).
- 1.3.8. College level public lecture:
 - ❖ Each of the BCLRA winners is expected to deliver a lecture on his/her winning research at a forum at his/her college. DRIC will coordinate this arrangement.

Composition of Assessment Team and Criteria for Assessment

- ❖ Evaluation of BERA, BEdRA and ORA shall be done at the university-wide level. The Award Assessment Team members are not allowed to compete for the

Awards. DRIC will constitute the Team in consultation with the Chairperson for the DRIC Management Committee. A representative each from DRIC and the UCC Committee for Staff Recognition will be part of the Assessment Team.

- ❖ For the BCLRA, applications shall be evaluated at the College level. The Assessment Team shall be composed of the Provost and Deans and a representative each from DRIC and the UCC Committee for Staff Recognition. In the case of CoDE (*where there are no Deans*), two senior professors shall be co-opted into the College Assessment Team. The implication is that Provosts and Deans are not eligible for these college awards.
- ❖ All applications will be validated against the eligibility criteria set out by DRIC.
- ❖ The assessment of applications shall be guided by the criteria and procedures set out herein.

Accessing Application Forms and Deadline for Submission

The application form for the awards can either be accessed from DRIC's Office or electronically, either by email sent to all colleagues or downloaded from the University's website. Application forms should be submitted to DRIC via email - **dric@ucc.edu.gh**.

All submissions (Application Form and Supporting Documents) should reach DRIC by **Friday, 4th May, 2018**.

Further Enquiries:

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