



**Rodney S. Raney Graduate Faculty Mentor Award
Final Proposal December 9, 2010**

Purpose: The Raney Mentor Award recognizes faculty who exemplify the highest ideals of the engaged faculty member. The award honors faculty whose mentoring serves as an example to the graduate community by combining a commitment to scholarship, professional, clinical, or creative work with innovative and effective graduate teaching. Recipients of the Raney Award contribute to their discipline through the development of their own scholarship or creative activity alongside that of their students. By maintaining active engagement within their field to bring graduate students into the discipline, exemplary graduate mentors leverage their own professional, disciplinary, and academic networks to the advantage of new scholars, professionals, and creative artists.

Eligibility Criteria:

Active Participation in Disciplinary Organizations

This criterion includes evidence of membership and service in internationally, nationally, and state-recognized professional organizations. Evidence of achievement in this area includes participation in committees, governing boards, conference planning boards, task forces, caucuses, or service as elected officer for organizations recognized within the wider academic discipline or creative field.

Research and Creative Productivity

This criterion measures both the nominee's contributions to the field of which she or he is a member, but also the relative prestige of the academic or creative journals, conference presentations, poster presentations, exhibitions, or performances through which results of the research or creative activity are disseminated. For the purposes of this criterion, peer-reviewed journals are prioritized over non-peer-reviewed journals; juried exhibitions or performances are to be prioritized over non-juried exhibitions or performances; international and national academic conferences are to be prioritized over state and local conferences.

Student Research and Creative Productivity

This criterion measures contributions to the field achieved by the nominee's students. Evidence may include publications, conference, exhibitions, or performances, prioritized in accordance with the guidelines for criterion 2.

Student Awards, Grants, Scholarships, Honors

This criterion measures scholarships, grants, awards, honors, or other forms of recognition of scholarly or creative excellence achieved by the nominee's graduate students. Such awards or honors are to be evaluated in terms of relative prestige within the appropriate academic or creative field.

Teaching Shaped by Research Interests

This criterion measures the integration of the nominee's research, scholarly, or creative achievements with their achievements as a teacher of graduate students. The statement of mentoring philosophy should demonstrate a commitment to such integration, and course syllabi should be supported by research or creative achievements as listed on the nominee's curriculum vita.

Nomination Process: Each nomination requires submission of a nomination letter from a graduate candidate. A complete packet will include:

- The letter of nomination that addresses all five criteria and is limited to two pages
- A one-page support letter from another graduate candidate
- A one-page support letter from a faculty member
- A one-page statement of mentoring philosophy from the nominee
- A one-page summary of student projects and achievements over the past 3-5 years
- A graduate course syllabus
- A curriculum vita

Complete Packets: Complete nomination packets are limited to 6 pages excluding the course syllabus and curriculum vita.

Deadline: 4:30 p.m. on the first Friday of March each year.

Number: One candidate will be selected from among those nominated.

Selection: Award recipients are selected by the Council on Graduate Studies Ranes Review Board. The Board will include nine members; five graduate faculty and four graduate candidates. The faculty representatives will include the Ranes Scholar from the previous year and one faculty representative from each of the four colleges appointed by the Dean of the Graduate School. The four graduate students will be appointed by the Assistant Dean of the Graduate School and will be selected from among those who are currently serving on the Graduate Student Advisory Council and who also represent each of the four colleges. Members of the Board on any given year cannot be nominees or write letters of support for the Ranes Award nominees.

Recognition: The Ranes Award recipient will be recognized during the Distinguished Graduate Students Awards Ceremony and will be invited to provide the key-note address on advancing graduate education at Eastern Illinois University during the Annual Meeting of the Council on Graduate Studies and Graduate Coordinators in the Fall.