

# “AgResearch Dean’s Professor”

AgResearch is pleased to introduce a new award to recognize outstanding faculty who have sustained an active research and development program over their career. The purpose of this accolade is to recognize highly productive and impactful faculty members at the rank of Professor with the title of “AgResearch Dean’s Professor” in recognition of well-documented, consistent and outstanding research products and key program impacts. The successful candidate will receive \$40,000/year of program support funds for a period of three years along with a medallion, and is entitled to retain the title for the duration of service to the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture. Importantly, the funding is made available for supplies, travel, GRA support, etc.; however, it cannot be used for faculty salary. Faculty with titled professorship, i.e., Endowed, Distinguished, Institute, or Chancellor’s Professor, are not considered for this award.

A maximum of four AgResearch Dean’s Professors will be awarded at the beginning. Subsequent nomination(s) will be solicited when a vacancy becomes available.

**Criteria:** The title of AgResearch Dean’s Professor recognizes faculty based on the cumulative impact of well-documented accomplishments in science and engineering made over the course of their career at The University of Tennessee. Eligibility is based on the following criteria:

- Holds the rank of (tenured) Professor for at least 3 years at the time of nomination;
- Holds 50% or greater appointment in AgResearch;
- Demonstrated continuous professional growth, productivity and leadership;
- Demonstrated impact on nominee’s discipline, community, and/or stakeholders;
- Has a record of successfully mentoring students, post docs, junior faculty members, and/or others as appropriate – (leadership roles, industry, academia and other appointments); and
- Has a general reputation within the university and institute as an outstanding citizen.

**Nomination procedure:** The nomination package will consist of:

- A letter of nomination from the Department Head or the Department Awards Committee that describes the candidate’s qualifications (limited to three pages);
- The candidate’s up-to-date Curriculum Vita, and a summary of accomplishments, demonstrating sustained outstanding track record;
- Two letters of support from external peers who are knowledgeable about the nominee’s work and the impact it has had on the discipline or community; and
- A 1-page narrative describing the 5-year vision, goals, and desired outcome of the candidate’s R&D program.

**Reviews and selection:** Nominations will be reviewed by a 3-member committee appointed by the AgResearch Dean, comprised of titled professors, plus the Associate Dean for AgResearch serving as the liaison. Review deliberations will be submitted to the Dean of AgResearch who will make the recommendations to the Sr. Vice President/Sr. Vice Chancellor. The “AgResearch Dean’s Professor” Award will be presented and celebrated in a special event in the fall semester.