

## Notes for Nominators and Letter of Support Writers: 2025 Award for Excellence in Social Science Engaged Research

1. *Civic engagement* is defined as research and scholarly activity projects and programs involving mutually beneficial, reciprocity-based collaborations of University of Northern Colorado faculty and/or students and/or staff from within or across disciplines in departments and/or colleges with external groups, organizations, governmental agencies, or individuals in applied or fundamental research programs.
2. Civic engagement activities may involve local community (a town, community interest, service or non-profit organizations, or local government and schools) or wider, more inclusive civic entities such as regional coalitions; federal, state or regional organizations; private or federal and state agencies and organizations.
3. Eligible individuals include faculty members in or associated with social science disciplines who are contract - renewable or tenure track lecturers, instructors, or assistant professors. Faculty with M.A. and/or Ph.D. degrees who are working in one of the following departments, schools, or academic programs are considered: Anthropology; Africana Studies; Economics; Gender Studies; Geography, GIS & Sustainability; Human Service (programs in Community Health; Gerontology; Recreation, Tourism and Hospitality; and Rehabilitative Services); Mexican American Studies; Nursing; Political Science & International Affairs; Sociology; and World Languages & Cultures.
4. The nominator/letter of support writer must be a faculty member from one of the departments or academic programs listed above. Self-nominations are welcome.
5. Nominators/letter of support writers should prepare a letter that addresses:
  - a. how nominees demonstrate significant professional development and achievement in civic engagement and engaged research and scholarly activity (as defined above), including scholarly publications and presentations, internally and externally funded grant and contract

projects, support of and contributions to disciplinary or multidisciplinary collaborations in fundamental and applied research and the integration of research and scholarly results into undergraduate and/or graduate curricula.

- b. how nominees' research and scholarly activity projects and programs involve Colorado faculty and/or students and/or staff from within or across disciplines in departments and/or colleges with external groups, organizations, governmental agencies, or individuals in applied or fundamental research programs.
6. Nominators/letter of support writers are encouraged to examine the accompanying instructions and criteria for members of the Award Selection Committee.
  7. Letters of nomination are due with the application to the Office of Research on **March 1, 2025**. Please send letters to [orsp@unco.edu](mailto:orsp@unco.edu). Thank you for supporting your colleague!