Award Criteria Recommendation Considerations:

Promising Scholar Award

- Need to reconsider the criteria to more clearly identify the award:

Current Award Criteria

To qualify for the title of “Promising Scholar,” an OSU faculty member must meet at least one of the following two criteria. Under each criterion are examples of evidence that could be used to demonstrate the contribution to be significant.

1. Outstanding scholarly activity that represents significant intellectual work validated and communicated through peer review, such as:
   - Published articles (e.g., peer-reviewed journal articles, technical reports, book chapters, and essays) contributing to a body of knowledge
   - Books (e.g., original works and textbooks, researched compilations, edited books)
   - Grant support (e.g., competitive, peer-reviewed research grants; foundation grants)

2. Outstanding creative activity that has been validated and communicated through peer review and scholarly critique, such as:
   - Production, exhibition, or performance of creative work (e.g., visual or performing art, or literature presented in the form of peer-reviewed publications, juried exhibits, noteworthy performances, readings or recordings; solo exhibits)
   - Commissioned or collected works (e.g., commissions for creative work; works collected by public and private museums and galleries)
   - Development of new technologies, materials, methods, or educational approaches (e.g., patents, inventions, new statistical techniques)

Nomination Process

Nominations shall include: (1) the completed nomination form; (2) the nominee's complete vita and copies of selected evidence of excellence relevant to the nomination; and (3) evidence of the candidate's achievements with specific attention to the award criteria for a promising scholar. A total of three letters of support shall provide sufficient information for the evaluation of nominees. Two letters of support shall be written by the unit heads/leaders (e.g., dean, chair, supervisor, director, unit administrator) and a third shall be from a referee who is not associated with the University, but who can comment on the nominee's qualifications with respect to the promising scholar award criteria.
To maintain objectivity in the selection process, the nominator must declare special relationships with the nominee that might create real or apparent bias in the process, including personal as well as professional relationships such as those with former advisees and collaborators. The nominator is not eligible to also submit a letter of support in addition to the nomination.

The outside referee must not have had any direct personal and/or professional relationships with the nominee (e.g., former advisors; collaborators on degrees, projects, grants, publications).

Each letter of support shall not exceed three single-sided pages using at least 12 point font and 1" margins. Please be certain that the nomination materials, particularly the three letters, address the award criteria.

Comments from others and committee:

- From Alan Herlihy: focus is to be on the scholarly work – focus on quality not quantity - scholarly work should be stellar, with potential for future production, that the scholar has exceptional potential for continued output
- From Provost: Consider the breadth of scholarship as including provision of research experiences for students; focus the criteria on the potential for impact. Requested that we send our recommendations to him after we have completed them.
- Consider:
  - Job description with FTE allocation – is it needed? What is the full load of professional duties among which the nominee was able to complete the scholarly work?
  - External letters – do we need to do more specification on the quality of the work and its potential impact? Add more specifications for the external referee’s to comment upon – “potential impact in the field”
  - What is a scholar at a university? Does it mean someone who also teaches? Is it someone despite the support of the unit whose scholarly work goes beyond? What about provision of research experiences for students?
  - How do the criteria get at quality?
    - Publications:
      - # pubs
      - quality of the publication outlets
      - percent as lead author
      - International outlet
    - Grants:
      - # of grants and amounts
      - co or lead PI
      - diversity of the grants
    - Impact:
      - Citations to demonstrate impact on field, if appropriate