

## Distinguished Master's Thesis Award STEM Disciplines

The Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS) and ProQuest are pleased to announce the 2020-2021 WAGS-ProQuest Distinguished Master's Thesis Award competition in STEM disciplines. This award recognizes distinguished scholarly achievement at the master's level in STEM disciplines: biological sciences, mathematical sciences, physical sciences, life sciences and engineering.

### Award Details

The 2020-2021 recipient will receive \$1,000, a Certificate of Award, and travel expenses for the recipient to attend the WAGS Annual Conference and Awards luncheon to be held in Boise, Idaho in March 2021.

### Eligibility

The scholarly product eligible for this competition is a formal written thesis. If a nominating department offers both a thesis option and a project option, only the thesis is acceptable for consideration for this award

Nominees must have successfully defended and submitted the final copy of their thesis towards the master's degree within the period of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020.

Nominees must be from a WAGS member institution

### Evaluation Criteria

- Originality of the study
- Scope and significance of the study
- Contribution to the discipline and/or profession
- Overall quality of the summary and abstract of the thesis

### Nomination Process

- All nominations must be submitted by 5 p.m., August 12, 2020 to [gradadvisor@ucsd.edu](mailto:gradadvisor@ucsd.edu).
- Graduate Division will review all submissions and select one application to nominate for this award.
- Awards will be announced by WAGS in November 2020.

### Nomination Packet

In the online nomination form, nominators will be required to prepare/upload the following materials as one PDF document using the following file name convention and upload it through the nomination form: *"Nominee's last name\_Nominee's institution\_WAGSSTEM.pdf"*



1. A non-technical summary prepared by the nominee (1000-1500 words) describing the research and its significance for a general academic audience of non-specialists.
2. An abstract of the nominee's research (not to exceed 10 double-spaced pages). Appendices containing nontextual material, such as charts or tables, may be included as additional pages. All pages should be numbered, and each should bear the name of the nominee.
3. Two nomination letters. One letter from the department head or major professor and one letter from an additional faculty member. The letters should include information regarding the significance of the thesis, the contribution of the thesis to the program of the degree granting unit, and the impact of the thesis on the knowledge base of the discipline.
4. The nominee's curriculum vitae or resume (not to exceed five pages).

## Questions

If you have any technical questions about the WAGS award, please contact Matthew Tradewell at [matthew.tradewell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:matthew.tradewell@oregonstate.edu)

If you have questions about the UCSD nomination process, contact [gradadvisor@ucsd.edu](mailto:gradadvisor@ucsd.edu)