# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

# Interdepartmental Correspondence

**Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies**
Killam Centre for Advanced Studies
2-29 Triffo Hall, University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB, Canada  T6G 2E1

**T** 780.492.9460
**F** 780.492.0692
grad.awards@ualberta.ca
ualberta.ca/graduate-studies

Date:    Wednesday, January 24, 2024

To:      Department Chairs, Graduate Coordinators, Graduate Program Administrators

From:   Award Services, Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

Re:      **2024 CAGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award**

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The Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (GPS) is pleased to announce the details of the 2024 Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS)/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Awards competition, now available on GPS' website.  The CAGS-ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Awards recognize Canadian doctoral dissertations that make unusually significant and original contributions to their academic field. They were established in 1994 and are presented annually by the Canadian Association for Graduate Studies (CAGS), with sponsorship support provided by ProQuest. There are two awards: one for engineering, medical sciences and natural sciences; and one for arts, humanities and social sciences. Winners of this award will be granted a $1,500 cash prize, a certificate of recognition, and an opportunity attend the 62nd Annual CAGS Conference, to be held in Toronto, Ontario, in November 2024.

**Eligible Dissertations:**

- A dissertation in any discipline in engineering, medical sciences and natural sciences completed and accepted by GPS between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023.
- A dissertation in any discipline in the fine arts, humanities and social sciences completed and accepted by GPS between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023.

**Note:** In interdisciplinary domains or in fields that overlap the two broad areas in which the prizes are given, the Dean of GPS must decide for which prize it is appropriate to submit the dissertation.

**Note:** To be eligible, dissertations must be disseminated in full text format via the ProQuest Dissertation & Thesis Global database (PQDT Global), prior to jury selection.

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**Nomination Procedure:**
Each department may submit one nomination via GSMS by **Monday, February 26, 2024** (late nominations will not be accepted). Each nomination must include:

1. A letter from the nominee's supervisor or Chair/Graduate Coordinator describing the reasons for the nomination, and why the dissertation constitutes a significant piece of original work;
    a. in the letter, include the name and departmental affiliation of the nominee's research supervisor;
    b. in the letter, include the name and affiliation of the external examiner;
2. A copy of the external examiner's pre-defence report. The examiner's report must be dated and signed.
3. An abstract of the dissertation, not exceeding 350 words, written by the nominee in non-technical language (the nominee should be aware of his or her nomination for the award and provide the information in 3 and 4. Should this not be possible, the reasons must be given in the letter from the Chair/Graduate coordinator).
4. An up-to-date CV of the nominee. Contributions to collaborative publications and research activities should be clearly explained.

GPS will consider all nominations received by **February 26th** and forward one nomination for each award to the CAGS National Office by the March 29, 2024 deadline. Successful nominees will be notified directly by CAGS.

Sincerely,


Award Services