

**To: Peer Reviewers of Candidates for the University of Nebraska
Outstanding Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) Award**

From: ORCA Awards Selection Committee

Letters of support from five peer reviewers outside the University of Nebraska system are required for the nomination of a faculty member for the Outstanding Research and Creative Activity Award, which was established to recognize research and creative activity of national or international significance conducted at the University of Nebraska. Nominations are solicited from the faculties of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the University Nebraska Medical Center, and the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Two “ORCA” awards are given each year--one for a faculty member in the areas of arts and humanities (including the creative and performing arts), business and social sciences, and professional education, and one for a faculty member in the areas of biological sciences, medical sciences, and physical sciences. ORCA recipients are honored annually in the spring and are each awarded \$10,000, a presidential medallion, and a plaque.

Thank you for agreeing to write a letter of support on behalf of one of the professors who has been nominated for this prestigious award. Your support letter will be shared with the members of the Awards Selection Committee, which is composed of professors from a wide variety of disciplines and is intended to represent a cross-section of the University of Nebraska community. With that in mind, your letter will best represent the candidate if it is addressed to scholars of any discipline, avoiding technical terminology, and placing the candidate’s achievements and contributions in as wide and broad context as possible.

In the support letter, you may want to address the following questions:

1. Which of the professor’s works do you regard as most important?
2. What has been the influence of this work on the development of the field?
3. How does the professor rank among other scholars in this discipline nationwide?

Please email your letter of support by November 15, 2017 to:

Angela Dibbert
ORCA Awards Selection Committee
Office of the Provost
evpp@nebraska.edu