The Pat Burns Memorial Graduate Student Research Award

Pat Burns touched generations of doctoral students during her nearly four decades of service to Vanderbilt University. In memory of her tireless efforts to help guide our students through all phases of their graduate education, the Department of Psychology establishes a Graduate Student Research Award to recognize outstanding achievement in research by our most outstanding graduate students. The recipient receives a plaque and a $500 award. This award was established in 2007.

The Application Procedure

The nominee must be a current graduate student in the Department of Psychology in the program in Psychological Sciences at Vanderbilt University. While all graduate students are eligible, as a graduate student research award, it is likely that awardees will be advanced students. Nominations must come from a faculty member in the Department of Psychology. Nominations must include (1) a nomination letter from the faculty member, (2) the nominee's current vita, and (3) one representative manuscript or publication. The letter of nomination of about two single-spaced pages and should (a) briefly summarize the research accomplishments of the nominee, (b) place those accomplishments in the context of other excellent graduates of the program, and (c) note the relative contributions of the nominee to the published research.

Nominations and supported material should be submitted to Erin Duran (erin.duran@vanderbilt.edu), Program Coordinator in the Department of Psychology. Applications will be reviewed by an ad hoc committee of faculty.
Please submit all nomination materials electronically so that we do not need to make multiple paper copies to distribute to the committee. Thank you.

Timeline

This year's deadline for nominations is **April 14, 2022. Award will be announced at Commencement Party.**

Number of Awards

We anticipate making one award each year. However, there may be years when we make no awards.

Past Winners

Phil Newman (2022)
Kelly Knowles (2021)
Jacob Westerberg (2020)
Rebecca Cox (2019)
Mackenzie Sunday (2018)
Kacie Dougherty (2017)
Michele Cox (2016)
Robert Reinhart (2015)
Pooja Balaram (2014)
Braden Purcell (2013)

Michael Treadway (2012)
Rankin Williams McGugin & Thomas Armstrong (2011)
Katy Thakkar (2010)
Peiyan Wong & Stephenie Harrison (2009)
Michael Mack & Jennifer Richler (2008)
Darryl Schneider (2007)