FIU University Graduate School
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

UGS Excellence Award for Graduate Student *Outstanding Paper or Manuscript*

April 16, 2026

PURPOSE

The **Graduate Student Outstanding Paper/Manuscript Award** recognizes nominees who have contributed to the body of research in their discipline via an outstanding paper or manuscript. The manuscripts will be considered in two separate categories: STEM and non-STEM. STEM disciplines include Chemistry, Computer and Information Technology Science, Engineering, Geosciences, Life Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Astronomy, Social Sciences (Anthropology, Economics, Psychology and Sociology), and STEM Education and Learning Research.

ELIGIBILITY

- Nominees must be currently enrolled graduate students, fully admitted to a degree-granting program (i.e.,certificate students are not eligible)
- Nominations must be submitted by a faculty nominator. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

NOMINATION DEADLINE

11:59 pm on Wednesday, February 25, 2026

CRITERIA

Nominees will be evaluated based on the quality of their work. The following criteria will determine excellence. All nominees will be subject to the same criteria:

- Role of student in original research/creative activity resulting in paper or manuscript (student should be sole or first author of work completed while enrolled as a student at FIU)
- Status of publication (i.e., published, published in conference proceedings, accepted for publication, submitted for consideration, etc.)
- Contributions that bring prestige to the university because of their quality and academic and/or artistic distinction (include information on prestige of journal and/or impact factor, if relevant)
- Contributions that enhance the discipline as demonstrated by the recognition of peers
- International/National/Community value - research and/or creative activities that enhance the mission of the university

DOCUMENTATION

- **Curriculum Vitae**: Must be submitted along with the faculty letter(s) of nomination.
- **Three (3) Letters of Recommendation:** At least one letter must be from a faculty member. All three letters should explain why the nominee should receive this award while *specifically addressing the evaluation criteria listed above*.
- **Outstanding Paper or Project**: A copy or documentation of the specific paper or manuscript for which the student is being nominated

NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS: Please visit the Graduate Student Outstanding Paper or Manuscript Nomination Form to submit your nomination.

AWARD AMOUNT

One award for STEM and one award for non-STEM paper/manuscript will be available, each in the amount of $1,000.00. Recipients will be invited to attend the UGS Excellence Awards Reception on Thursday, April 16, 2026.