

RISE Above Graduate Student Award

Award Guidelines

Description:

Integrity is a fundamental part of the culture. The Smeal Honor Code, started by students, is a pledge that holds the community accountable for integrity and ethical behavior. It reads: “We, the Smeal College of Business community, aspire to the highest ethical standards and will hold each other accountable to them. We will not engage in any action that is improper or that creates the appearance of impropriety in our academic lives, and we intend to hold to this standard in our future careers.”

The RISE Above Graduate Student Award recognizes a Smeal graduate student who shows ethical awareness and ethical decision-making, and demonstrates an on-going commitment to integrity and ethical behavior. This commitment can be demonstrated by showcasing best practices in the classroom and/or the workplace, leading and inspiring others to aspire to the highest ethical standards, and proposing initiatives for implementation to promote integrity and ethical behavior.

Number of Awards:

One award is given each year to a Smeal graduate student, assuming the nominee is approved by the selection committee and the Dean.

Eligibility:

All Smeal graduate students.

Nomination Process:

The Dean will send a formal announcement via e-mail in April. Smeal faculty, staff, and students may submit a nomination for the award; there is no limit on the number of nominations that may be submitted. A nomination must include the name of the nominator, the name of the nominee, and a brief supporting statement regarding the contributions of the nominee to promote integrity and ethical behavior. Selection of the award recipient is not determined based upon the quantity of nominations, but by the quality of the nomination. No self-nominations will be accepted.

Selection Committee:

The selection committee is to include: the Associate Dean for Professional Master’s Programs, the Director of the PhD Program, the Honor and Integrity Director, and the award recipient from the prior year. After the committee selects the final nominee, the Honor and Integrity Director will share the nominee with the Dean for final approval. Once the Dean approves the final nominee, then the committee may notify the awardee.

Selection Timeline:

The award—a plaque and financial award—will be made within two weeks of the close of nominations. The award recipient will also be recognized at a time determined by the program coordinator (e.g., pre-commencement ceremony, post-commencement reception).

Contact:

Integrity@smeal.psu.edu