The Rains Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Works

1. History of the Award
The Rains Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Works is named after Mrs. Liliore G. Rains, who was a major benefactor to Loyola Marymount University. Each academic year one award will be given.

2. Eligibility
All full-time, tenured faculty members of LMU are eligible for this award. Previous winners are not eligible. Faculty members who submitted an application for 2017 will have the opportunity to be considered for the award again in 2018 (please note that applications only rollover for one year). These faculty members will have the opportunity to update their application materials if necessary. The Chair of the Faculty Awards Committee will communicate with these faculty members.

3. Purpose of the Award
The purpose of the award is to recognize a tenured member of the Loyola Marymount University faculty whose scholarship or creative activity exemplifies LMU’s mission in a manner that is both outstanding and meaningful.

4. Nominations
Nominations in the form of a signed letter sent electronically (via email) addressed to the Executive Vice President and Provost, in care of Deena González, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs may come from any tenured or tenure-track member of the faculty. The Faculty Awards Committee welcomes nominations, with the consent of the nominee. The nomination and application process is outlined below (see #6).

5. Criteria for Selection
Scholarship, creative works and teaching are essential duties of the LMU faculty members. Indeed, excellence in scholarly or creative activity and excellence in teaching should go hand in hand. The award recognizes faculty members who successfully have united these two roles through their scholarship or creative achievements.

The criteria for selection include the extent to which:

- the work contributes to the common good of the campus, the community and society at large and fulfills the University’s mission and goals.
- the work has contributed to or influenced the faculty member’s academic or creative field of work.
- the faculty member integrates the scholarly or creative work into their teaching, advising, and mentoring.
- the work has garnered external recognition such as honors, awards, or funding.

6. Supporting Evidence
Applicants must submit all of the application materials except the dean and chair letters to BOX by Wednesday, February 14, 2018. Contact Athena Simpson in the Office of Faculty Affairs, athena.simpson@lmu.edu, for access to BOX. Applicants should clearly label all files.

The application should include:
• The nominee’s curriculum vitae.
• Letters-of-support (no more than three) from colleagues or other persons in a position to comment on the nominee’s research, scholarly, or creative work.*
• A statement by the nominee that describes his or her research, scholarly or creative accomplishments, frames them relative to their contribution to the discipline, the University community or society at large, and indicates how they meet the criteria for selection.

After receiving the completed application, the candidate’s department chair will review the material, compose a signed letter of recommendation, and upload it to BOX by Friday, February 23, 2018. The candidate’s dean will then compose a signed letter of recommendation, and upload it to BOX by Monday, March 12, 2018. The letters of recommendation should clearly address how the nominee has demonstrated achievement in the criteria for the award (see above).

7. Review Procedures
Completed applications will be reviewed by the Faculty Awards Committee, which will then make a recommendation to the Executive Vice President and Provost.

8. The Award
The Rains Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Work consists of a University medal and a monetary award of $5,000.

9. Award Announcements
The Rains Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Work will be announced at the Academic Awards Convocation on April 19, 2018, at 3 PM in the Sacred Heart Chapel. A reception will follow in the Sculpture Garden.

The award recipient will also be announced at the Burns/Rains Awards Ceremony on April 25, 2018 at 3:30 PM in the Ahmanson Auditorium. Because public recognition is an integral part of the award, the recipient must attend this event and deliver a brief talk. A reception will follow at the Marymount Institute.

The award recipient will also be announced at the 2018 Commencement Ceremony.

* Only sole-authored and signed letters of support or nomination will be accepted.