Research Incentive Award (RIA)  
2016-2017 College of Medicine Procedures  
(Approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, September 8, 2016)

I. Program Overview  
Research Incentive Awards (RIA) are now available to faculty in the College of Medicine. For 2016-2017, there will be two (2) new RIAs in addition to any recycled awards that may exist. The Office of Academic Affairs provides the funding for the new awards, whereas funding for recycled awards comes from the college. The specifics of the RIA program were developed through consultation between the Office of Academic Affairs and approved by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

II. Funding and Allocation of Awards  
Regardless of the contract length (9-months or 12-months), award recipients will receive a $5,000 increase to their base salary retroactive to August 8, 2016, the start of the 2016-2017 contract.

In any given academic year, if any former recipients of RIA awards leave their employment at UCF, the award(s) will remain within the College of Medicine for “recycling” as additional RIA awards for the following academic year.

III. Faculty Eligibility  
Nominations for the awards may be made by faculty, students, staff, alumni, or by self-nomination. The successful nominee must have an outstanding research, scholarly, or creative record that advances the body of knowledge in their field. The actual dollar amount awarded for the academic year 2016-2017 will be based on 9-month or 12-month employment.

Nominees from the college must be full-time faculty holding tenured, tenure-earning, or multiyear appointments. All candidates must have served continuously since August 8, 2012, the start of the 2012-2013 academic year. No candidate may be selected for the RIA award more than once every five years. Faculty who received a RIA effective August 8, 2011 or earlier are eligible to apply.

IV. Application and Supporting Documentation  
The accompanying application form must be used for all nominations. Documentation and materials supporting the nominee's research or creative accomplishments must accompany each application.

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V. Evaluation and Award Process

A review committee comprised of five (5) faculty members, one nominated by the Dean and the four most recent RIA winners will select the recommended awardees. Candidates for an award are not eligible to serve on peer review committees.

The criteria for evaluating applicants' files provided here in no order of preference will include the following major categories, which are to be applied as appropriate for the discipline:

- Value or impact of research and creative efforts both within the discipline and to society;
- Recognition of research and creative efforts by the individual's peers in the same or related disciplines;
- Publication and presentation of research and creative efforts;
- External grant and contract support for the research and creative efforts appropriate to the candidate's discipline;
- The peer review committee should take into consideration the fraction of time assigned (FTE) for research for all applicants.

The president, on recommendation from the provost and the vice president for research and commercialization, will give the final approval for award recipients. After the approval by the president, each college, institute, and center will notify all nominees of the results, including an explanation of the unit's reasons for its recommendations.