



## **JCEP Award for Creative Excellence**

### **Rationale**

The Team and Professional of the Year awards didn't generate much interest among members within our organizations (no applicants at all for the Team award), thus the board decided to discontinue both and replace with a new award. There is still a good reason to have a JCEP award – marketing opportunity for JCEP, the award is valued by the recipients and can help emphasize other JCEP goals.

The overall new award goal is to provide recognition for creativity and innovation, especially around emerging issues. This is consistent with JCEP's role to address emerging issues more nimbly and quickly. It should be designed to:

- be attractive to all Extension folks (especially Millennials) and not just those later in their career
- Attract “fringes” where creative and innovative ideas and approaches emerge
- Fill a niche - a set of accomplishments not explicitly recognized by our organizations' other awards

There was consensus that the award be given in the same way as the Professional of the Year – one for each association judged by a process and timeline determined within each, nominations through JCEP.

### **Description**

Often, the most creative and innovative ideas - the ones that advance the science and art of Cooperative Extension - come not from committees, but rather from individuals or small teams who see something at first that the rest of us don't. Through their insight, passion and persistence, their "wild" ideas gain acceptance, enabling all of us to excel. This award recognizes those individuals or small teams and their unique contributions - whether they are early in their Extension careers, mid-career, or late-career. For the purposes of this award, innovation is an approach to emerging issues or addressing existing issues in exceptionally creative or novel ways that get results, and that others want to emulate.

### **Eligibility**

Candidates must have an Extension appointment and be a member in good standing of one or more of the seven JCEP organizations. Individuals may be nominated through one JCEP organization per year, even if the nominee is a member of two or more. Self-nominations are welcome.

### **Judging**

Each Association may select one “nominee” – an individual or small team (2-5 members) to move forward to the JCEP awards committee for consideration for the overall National JCEP award. Each Association's individual nominee or team will receive recognition and a \$250 stipend to be presented at their respective Association's National Meeting. Attendance encouraged at the national association meeting, but not mandatory to receive award.

The association nominees (a total of seven if each association submits a nominee) will be judged by the JCEP Awards Committee to determine one overall national award recipient. The individual or team recipient of the overall National JCEP Award for Creative Excellence will receive recognition and a \$1,000 stipend to be presented at JCEP Leadership Conference. Attendance at the leadership conference is required to receive the award<sup>1</sup>.

Association nominees and the overall national winner are required to present their innovation and creative achievements either at their national association conference (JCEP Leadership Conference for the overall national winner), or will be provided an opportunity to present their innovative and creative achievements during a national webinar. All of the honoree's innovation and creative achievements will be highlighted on the JCEP web site and in JCEP communications.

Judging will be based on the following criteria (100 pts, 20 pts per criteria):

1. Do the nominee's efforts address emerging issues, or current issues in unique ways?
2. Are the innovative efforts new, that is, not widely conducted previously in the state or region?
3. Does the nominee exhibit a pattern of innovative and creative efforts extending beyond a single program or product?
4. Are the innovative and creative efforts highlighted in the nomination leading to change in individuals and communities?
5. Are other Extension or outreach professionals adopting the innovative and creative approaches developed by the nominee?

Organizational winners will be notified prior to the annual meeting of the organization and the national winner will be notified by JCEP prior to registration for the JCEP Leadership Conference.

**Due date by association are:**

ANREP – February 26, 2017

NACDEP – March 3, 2017

ESP – March 1, 2017

NAE4-HA – March 1, 2017

NACAA – April 15, 2017

NAEFCS – May 1, 2017

NAEPSDP – August 31, 2017

The application form can be found by going to <http://icep.org> under the JCEP Awards tab on the homepage.

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<sup>1</sup> This requirement may be waived by the JCEP Awards Committee due to extreme travel funding challenges or unalterable schedule conflicts.