

***The Department of Bioengineering is pleased to announce the Distinction in Research and Creative Work for BSB graduates.***

This award will recognize undergraduate students who have contributed substantially through independent research and design. Please read this note carefully to understand if you qualify for this distinction. For all nominated students, the student application and the advisor's supporting letter are **April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Only complete nominations will be considered.

What is Independent Research/Creative Work?

Independent research will be considered when a student is enrolled in BIOE 400 or BIOE 401, or is working in an advisor's lab without course credit (with or without pay). For design, a student's contribution while enrolled in ENGI 120, BIOE 360, BIOE 451, BIOE 452, or other team-based design course will not be considered. Independent design will be considered when a student is enrolled in GLHT 400, ENGI 200 or 300, or another independent design course or works directly in an advisor's lab without course credit (with or without pay).

Advisor

Students can work for a faculty member or advisor within Rice University or outside Rice University (including national and international locations). At least one faculty member will be required to certify work for the student.

Eligibility

All Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering candidates will be eligible. A minimum GPA of 3.30 is required to receive this distinction.

Who will Qualify?

There are two situations in which a student will automatically qualify to receive the *Distinction in Research and Creative Work*:

- The student is first (or equal contribution second) author on a research manuscript, either published or accepted by peer-reviewed journal. Conference proceedings and review papers, even if peer reviewed, are not considered journal papers for this award.
- The student wins an undergraduate research award at a national, professional society conference (e.g., BMES, AIChE, ASME, Society for Biomaterials, TERMIS). Regional conference (e.g., Southwest Biomedical Engineering conference, Biomaterials Day) or campus-based conference (e.g., RURS, ATE) are not considered national society conferences for this award.

A student may be considered if he/she meets the following two criteria:

- The student has conducted research or independent design for 3 sessions. (A session is defined as an academic year or a summer). The student may work in different labs and/or have different advisors through these sessions. Examples of minimum times include:
  - 3 academic years
  - 2 academic years and 1 summer
  - 1 academic year and 2 summers
  - 3 summers
- The student contributes substantially to research or design efforts in one or more labs or locations. Examples of these include:
  - Co-authorship on a publication. The publication may be published, in press, in review, or in preparation. Publications may include a peer-reviewed journal paper, review paper, or other types.
  - Co-authorship on a paper (conference proceedings, abstract) or poster that is presented at a technical meeting. Papers and posters at regional and national conferences will be considered. Submissions to Rice-only, on-campus events such as RURS are not considered eligible.

Applicants must complete the attached form entitled “Application Distinction in Research and Creative Works”. One faculty mentor who has worked with the student in research or design must complete the Supporting Faculty form. A letter of recommendation may accompany the Supporting Faculty form.

#### Nomination Process

The student application and the advisor’s supporting letter are due by the deadline stated above. Completed applications should be sent to Dr. Ramos ([rfr1@rice.edu](mailto:rfr1@rice.edu)) with a copy to Gayle Schroeder ([ges2@rice.edu](mailto:ges2@rice.edu)). The BIOE Undergraduate Advising and Awards Committee will make the selection for the students based on these guidelines and other documented, published procedures that the Committee establishes. The Chair of the BIOE department will review and approve the selection.