Jack E. Cermak Graduate Student Advising Award
For recognition of excellence in graduate student advising and mentoring

Nomination and Selection Process

The Jack E. Cermak Graduate Student Advising Award has been presented annually to outstanding advisers and mentors across campus since 1984-85. Jack E. Cermak was a Professor in Civil Engineering who endowed this award because of his strong belief in the value of graduate student advising and mentoring. This award serves to highlight and reward, in a small way, the extraordinary efforts of truly outstanding advisers and mentors, who go above and beyond to ensure their graduate students succeed and thrive at CSU and beyond.

The Nominee cannot have received the award in the past seven years (see the list of past Cermak Award Recipients on the Provost’s website). The selection committee will select (1) individual to receive the Jack E. Cermak Graduate Student Advising Award each year. The award amount is $1,000.

To complete the nomination for a Jack E. Cermak Graduate Student Advising Award, the Nominator must submit the following:

1. A completed Nomination Form (see the 2-page “Nomination Form” on the Provost’s website).

2. A statement of nomination that explains the mentoring impact the nominee has had on graduate students and/or the mentoring culture of the nominee’s department/unit, college, or university. Concrete examples should be provided. The statement must be limited to no more than two pages, double-spaced, have at least 1” margins, and have at least a 10-point font.

3. Three letters total from current or former students who have been advised/mentored by the nominee. The nominee may suggest students or alumni willing to write such a letter.

4. A letter of support from the department chair of the nominee which must be limited to no more than two pages, double-spaced, have at least 1” margins, and have at least a 10-point font.

5. A personal statement of advising and mentoring experience and philosophy by the Nominee, including how the nominee has mentored across differences (race, gender, sexual orientation, culture, age, etc.). The statement must be limited to no more than two pages, double-spaced, have at least 1” margins, and have at least 10-point font.

Submit an electronic copy of the complete nomination packet with the nomination form to ludy.avalos@colostate.edu by 4 p.m. February 1. The subject line of the email should read “Graduate Advising Cermak Award – nominee’s name”. No hard copies and no late submissions will be accepted.

A selection committee of at least five individuals – including faculty and graduate students from the Graduate Center for Inclusive Mentoring – will be convened and chaired by the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs to determine the award winners. Selection will be announced at the Celebrate Colorado State Reception in April.