I. Purpose

The purpose of the San Jose State University Research Foundation Early Career Investigator Award program is to recognize tenure-track faculty who have excelled in the areas of research, scholarship or creative activity, evidenced by their success in securing external funds for their research, peer reviewed publications, and other scholarly and creative activities, at an early or beginning point in their career.

Two award categories have been created to ensure the broadest participation possible from all academic units. Category 1 awards a faculty member in the Colleges of Science and Engineering, and Category 2 awards a faculty member in all other colleges.

II. Eligibility

To be eligible for any of the Early Career Investigator Award, an individual must:

- Be a full-time Unit 3 faculty member
- Be tenure-track but non-tenured at the time of the nomination (probationary, including assistant and associate faculty)
- Not have completed more than six full years in his or her tenure-track or other comparable independent research appointment
- Not have received this award previously

III. Selection Criteria

In evaluating candidates for this award, consideration will be given to the nominee’s history of research, scholarship and creative activities, recognition of outstanding achievements by peers, and importance of the work to the discipline and beyond as demonstrated by:

a. Extraordinary externally peer reviewed funded contract and grant activity, and demonstrated ways in which such awards contribute to the improvement of the infrastructure, research capability, and recognition of San Jose State University.

b. Publications in top-ranked peer-reviewed research journals, exhibits in nationally-renowned galleries, and/or authorship of highly respected scholarly books. Please provide specific information (name of journal, name of exhibits and galleries, book citations, dates)
IV. Nomination Instructions

Nominations may come from the faculty member’s academic unit (deans and/or chairs). Self-nominations will also be accepted. Please copy your dean and/or chair should you submit a self-nomination.

Nominations should be in the form of a letter (maximum one page, 12 point Times New Roman font) stating the reasons for nominating the faculty member and describing the accomplishments of the nominee as appropriate to the award criteria.

Nominations should include a curriculum vita.

A selection committee will be established consisting of the Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research, the Interim Chief Operating Officer of the SJSU Research Foundation, and two active researchers, one each from a college in Award Category 1 and one from a college in Award Category 2.

Nominations are due by March 29, 2013 for awards to be announced in early May 2013. Please direct nominations to the SJSU Research Foundation; Attention: Jerri Carmo, Interim Chief Operating Officer.

V. Form of Award

Each award recipient will receive a commemorative plaque and a cash award of $1,000 to be used at the recipient’s discretion. A permanent plaque listing annual award recipients will be on display at the Research Foundation and outside the Provost’s Office.

A profile of each recipient’s research accomplishments will be featured on the Research Foundation’s website and other broadly distributed publications.