

The Rural Renewal Initiative inspires, empowers, and coordinates rural renewal research at Oklahoma State University and beyond. The Rural Renewal Initiative supports interdisciplinary research by funding seed grant projects seeking to improve the lives of people in rural communities and providing them with trained student research scholars to lead community-engaged and participative research.

The Rural Renewal Initiative will host its inaugural Rural Renewal Symposium online on October 13, 2020, to expand and empower its network of collaborating faculty, students, and community leaders. The symposium will feature the research of faculty, research scholars, and other technical and social scientists who have conducted research in and for rural communities. At the symposium, the Rural Renewal Initiative will award the first Rural Renewal Research Prize. This award will honor a world leader in rural renewal research, education, and engagement. The awardee must participate in the Rural Renewal Symposium and provide a keynote address. The Prize will include a \$5,000 stipend. Nominations are due August 18, 2020.

Questions may be submitted to ruralrenewal@okstate.edu.

The nominations process is described below:

Seeking Nominations: Rural Renewal Research Prize

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1. A one- or two-page letter of nomination indicating the nominee's name, reasons for making the nomination, and other information which might be helpful to the review committee. The name, address, email, and phone number of the person making the nomination also should be included;
2. A two-page vita for the individual nominated, which showcases the nominee's work in rural communities. This can include, but is not limited to, educational background, places of employment, volunteer activities, organizational involvement, special projects undertaken, courses taught, publications, research grants/projects, positions held with professional organizations, awards received, and other information which might assist the review committee; and
3. Three one-page letters of support for the nominee that demonstrate his or her work and its impact on rural communities. The nominating materials must be received as a single pdf file sent to ruralrenewal@okstate.edu by August 18, 2020. The nominations will be reviewed by an external review committee. The winner will be notified by September 1, 2020. The awardee must participate in the Rural Renewal Symposium on October 13, 2020, and provide a keynote address. The Prize will include a \$5,000 stipend.

