**Jimmy and Ileen Cheek Graduate Student Medal of Excellence**

Award Information and Application Requirements

The Jimmy and Ileen Cheek Graduate Student Medal of Excellence is awarded annually to an outstanding graduate student currently enrolled at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The award is given to a student pursuing a Ph.D. and has completed at least four semesters of study. The applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

* High academic potential and achievement
* Leadership and community involvement (campus or local community)
* Commitment to and passion for the chosen field of study
* Personal sacrifice for his/her education
* Effort above and beyond the call of duty

The recipient of the Jimmy and Ileen Cheek Graduate Student Medal of Excellence will be invited to the Chancellor’s Honors Banquet and will receive a medal and a monetary award.

**Applicants must submit the following to their respective college/department** (**materials should specifically address the five evaluation criteria listed above**) as **one pdf document**:

1. Letter of nomination from the student’s supervisory committee chair.
2. Brief CV – two page maximum.
3. Personal statement – two page maximum.
4. Two additional letters of support.
5. Waiver of Access Form (attached).

Each college/department will review the submissions, make their selection(s) and submit the appropriate number of nominees to the Office of the Provost based on the list below.

One Nominee

 Communication and Information Comparative and Experimental Medicine

 Social Work Haslam College of Business

 Nursing Bredesen Center

Two Nominees

 Education, Health, and Human Sciences

 Herbert College of Agriculture

Page 2

Three Nominees

 Tickle College of Engineering

Four Nominees

 Arts and Sciences

The Graduate School will add a copy of the student’s UT transcript to the packet prior to committee review.

**All nomination packets must be submitted as one electronic pdf format by 5:00 p.m. December 10, 2021, to Angie Cross (****across15@utk.edu****).**