Announcement of Open Nominations for the "Jacobsen Prize for Excellence in Scholarship" for Undergraduate Faculty

Dear COE,

The Office of the Provost is delighted to announce that nominations are now open for the 2027 Jacobsen Prize for Excellence in Scholarship. This new annual recognition is made possible by the generosity of Emeriti Professors Dr. Douglas (Jake) and Dr. Rhonda Hustedt Jacobsen, long time undergraduate faculty members at Messiah University. Given their deep commitment to undergraduate education and scholarship as a Christian vocation, it is fitting that the Jacobsen Prize recognizes the ongoing academic contributions of Messiah undergraduate faculty members.

I would like to invite members of the COE to nominate scholarly products (of their own or of colleagues) that have been released for dissemination during the three prior calendar years (2024-2026). Nominations may include, but are not limited to, books, peer-reviewed book chapters or journal articles, works of art, and compositions. A selection committee of Distinguished Professors will select the single product (which may or may not include explicitly Christian content) displaying the highest caliber of scholarship.

Eligibility

In keeping with the donors' wishes, the eligibility criteria for recipients of the Jacobsen Prize include the following:

- Full-time faculty members of Messiah University whose primary teaching load is in the undergraduate program and who are not yet eligible to apply for Distinguished Professor Chair
- Previous winners of the Jacobsen Prize who are still within the eligibility criteria and whose work has not received the award within the past three years

Prize

The winner of the Jacobsen prize will enjoy the following privileges:

- $2000 that may be used for either professional expenses or supplemental salary in the next fiscal year
- Name engraved in a plaque with the names of prize winners
- Featured guest at a fall semester colloquy to discuss their prize-winning work

Nominations can be submitted by e-mailing nominations to **jacobsenprize@messiah.edu**. Nominations should include the name and title/position of the nominated individual as well as an attachment (e.g. Word, PDF, etc.), link (e.g. YouTube video, etc.), or other form of access to the full work being nominated**.** The nomination deadline is December 1, 2026.

We are grateful to the Jacobsen family for the generous gift allowing for this celebration of scholarship, and we look forward to recognizing the scholarly talents of Messiah's undergraduate faculty members.